



2026 Community Impact Grants awarded

The Clinton County Farm Bureau's sixth annual "Community Impact Grant" program once again demonstrated the organization's commitment to strengthening local communities through partnerships and community-driven projects.

This year, the program received an outstanding response with eight applications requesting more than \$20,000 in funding. Although the original budget for the program was \$5,000, the Clinton County Farm Bureau increased its support and awarded a total of \$8,000 in grant funding for 2026 projects. Even with the additional funding, only portions of several projects could be supported due to the high level of

need and interest.

Projects awarded grant funding for 2026 include:

- Aviston Park District — \$1,000 for security cameras at the new Aviston Soccer Complex.
- Bartelso School District — \$2,000 for new playground equipment.
- Breese Historical Society — \$500 for a project titled "Echoes of Breese in Stone and Story."
- Carlyle Optimist Club — \$1,500 for a Boy Scout Recycling Hub.
- Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School — \$500 for event marketing.
- Damiansville Community Development

Club — \$2,000 for park improvements, including rubber mulch surfacing.

- Western Clinton County Senior Services — \$500 for programming titled "Rural Values and Neighborliness."

Congratulations to all recipients of the Clinton County Farm Bureau's 2026 Community Impact Grant Program. The Farm Bureau appreciates the opportunity to partner with organizations and individuals working to improve local communities and looks forward to seeing these projects make a positive impact.

To date, the Clinton County Farm Bureau has awarded more than \$35,270 in grant funding supporting 35 community projects.

Safety Grant Awarded to Clin-Clair Fire Dept.

The Clinton County Farm Bureau Young Leader Committee has awarded the first of its 2026 Equipment Grants to the Clin-Clair Fire Department. Grant funds were used to purchase a combustible gas detector to assist emergency responders in identifying natural gas, propane, and methane leaks in and around silos, grain bins, manure pits, and other farm-related environments during emergency calls. The Equipment Grant Program helps local departments purchase agriculture-related emergency response equipment. With agriculture at the heart of Clinton County, the program helps ensure rural emergency responders are prepared for the unique challenges they may face on the farm. A total of \$2,950 in grant funding will be awarded through the program this year, including support from an \$800 Farm Safety Grant provided by Illinois Farm Bureau and COUNTRY Financial.



Win a year's supply of milk or ice cream

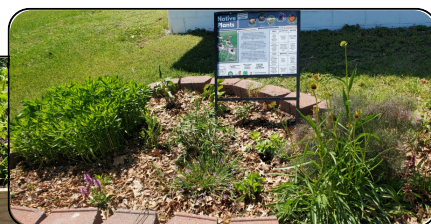
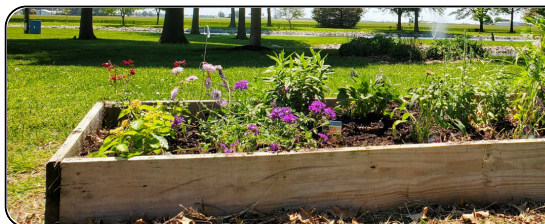
June is National Dairy Month...a celebration that started out as a way to distribute extra milk during the warm months of summer. Established in 1937 by grocer organizations sponsoring "National Milk Month," by 1939 June became the official "diary month" that is still celebrated today.

For generations, Illinois dairy farm families have been producing fresh, nutritious milk. These farm families are caretakers of their cows, stewards of the land and leaders in their communities.

Continue on page 3 - June

Pollinator Garden Updates

Volunteers with the University of Illinois Extension, including Extension Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists, recently held workdays to freshen up local pollinator gardens across the county which are funded in part by the Illinois Farm Bureau Pollinator Conservation Grant program, supporting efforts to expand and sustain habitat for bees, butterflies, and other essential pollinators.



June

Continued from page 1

Ands nobody does dairy better in Illinois than Clinton County... we are the #1 milk producing county in the state!

To celebrate our many dairy farmers, the Clinton County Farm Bureau (CFB) is giving away a year's supply of milk or ice cream to two lucky members. Clinton County Farm Bureau

members can enter to win by completing an online entry form available from our Facebook page or on our website: www.clintoncofb.org. We'll keep the registration open for the entire month of June, but you only need to submit one entry per membership. We'll draw out two winners in July to receive a supply of Prairie Farms coupons to purchase their year supply of milk, ice cream or really any of Prairie Farms

delicious products (approximately a \$260 value for each winner). Support America's hard working dairy farm families. Whether it's in coffee, cereal, or smoothies, adding one more serving of milk to your family's day can help

ensure they get the nutrients they need to build strong bones and teeth. Delicious, nutritious dairy foods play a role in your everyday life. Kick off your dairy celebrations with a cold glass of milk, a tasty slice of cheese, of a spoonful of ice cream.

Soil Testing Kits available

The Clinton County Farm Bureau, in partnership with the Clinton County Illinois Extension Office, is offering soil testing kits this spring with support from the 2026 Nutrient Stewardship Grant Program. This program helps homeowners and gardeners better understand their soil while promoting responsible nutrient management.

You may have questions about your soil, so let us help you take the guesswork out of soil improvement with soil testing. With soil testing, you can find out what your soil needs and get fertilizer recommendations based on your soil's specific needs.

The soil test includes soil pH, Potassium, Phosphorous,

Calcium, Magnesium, Organic Matter, and Cation Exchange Capacity.

Farm Bureau Soil Test Kit Pricing

- Soil Test Kit – 1 sample: \$25 member/\$30 non-member
- 2-sample kit: \$40 member/\$50 non-member
- 3-sample kit: \$55 member/\$70 non-member

*Pricing subject to change

Additional recommendations based on your soil sample results will be provided by the soil testing lab. However, we know that sometimes it's nice to talk with an expert about your soil results and how to improve your soil's potential. Illinois Extension Educator Chris Lueking and local Master Gardeners are available to answer your specific questions about soil tests, landscaping, tree care, lawn care, and gardening.

Soil kits are available at the Clinton County Farm Bureau Office, 1165 N 4th St., Breese.

More information is available on our website: www.clintcofb.org. Or you can call the office at (618) 526-7235 if you have any questions.



Nobody Does Dairy Better

IN HONOR OF "JUNE IS DAIRY MONTH" WE ARE GIVING AWAY A YEAR'S SUPPLY OF MILK AND ICE CREAM!*

MEMBERS CAN SCAN TO REGISTER

CCFB Members in good standing can enter to win by completing the online entry form.

CLINTON COUNTY FARM BUREAU
Farm. Family. Food.™

* TWO WINNERS WILL RECEIVE \$2 - \$5 PRAIRIE FARMS GIFT CERTIFICATES



2026 Community IMPACT GRANT Winners

CLINTON COUNTY FARM BUREAU
Farm. Family. Food.™

AVISTON PARK DISTRICT
\$1,000 - New Soccer Complex Security Cameras

BARTELSON SCHOOL DISTRICT
\$2,000 - New Playground Equipment

BREESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
\$500 - Echoes of Breese in Stone and Story

CARLYLE OPTIMIST CLUB
\$1,500 - Boy Scout Recycling Hub

CHRIST OUR ROCK LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL
\$500 - Event Marketing

DAMIANSVILLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CLUB
\$2,000 - Park Improvements - Rubber Mulch Surfacing

WESTERN CLINTON COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES
\$500 - Rural Values and Neighborliness



SOIL TESTING PROGRAM

Soil testing takes the guesswork out of soil improvement, growing plants, and fertilizer recommendations.

- ✓ What's wrong with this lawn?
- ✓ Why won't my garden grow?
- ✓ The flowers need something...
- ✓ Why aren't these shrubs performing?
- ✓ These crops aren't yielding like they should?

PRICING

- 1 Sample Soil Kit: \$25 for members / \$30 non-members
- 2 Sample Soil Kit: \$40 for members / \$50 non-members

Stop by our office in Breese for more information and to obtain your kit.

(618) 526-7235 www.clintoncofb.org

CLINTON COUNTY FARM BUREAU
Farm. Family. Food.™

Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Christmas in July Nutcracker Paint Party bringing Holiday Cheer to Summer

Celebrate the season early at the Christmas in July Nutcracker Paint Party, an Adult Agriculture in the Classroom workshop

designed to bring creativity, community, and festive fun together in a relaxed summer setting.

Participants will enjoy a guided evening of painting a decorative nutcracker-themed project while sharing laughter and a social atmosphere complete with charcuterie-style snacks. This event is open to all skill levels—no prior painting experience is needed, and all supplies will be provided.

The workshop is part of the ongoing programming offered through Adult Ag in the Classroom, which provides hands-on learning experiences that connect adults with agricultural education in meaningful and engaging ways. These programs also help support classroom initiatives that teach students about agriculture's role in food systems, natural resources, and everyday life.

Event Highlights

- Festive nutcracker painting project
- Charcuterie-style snacks included
- Relaxed, social evening atmosphere
- No experience necessary—just creativity
- Proceeds support agriculture education in schools

Proceeds from the workshop directly benefit Agriculture in the Classroom programming, helping bring agricultural literacy into local classrooms and enriching student learning experiences.

Follow along on Facebook or subscribe to the monthly newsletter for registration updates and early sign-up opportunities.



JOIN US FOR A

Christmas

in

July

NUTCRACKER

Paint Party

Wednesday, July 1

6 - 9 P.M.

Enjoy a relaxing evening with friends while supporting agricultural education in our local classrooms. Every brushstroke helps bring hands-on learning experiences to students across Clinton County.

REGISTER Today

Tickets include:

- charcuterie treats
- holiday nutcracker
- all paint supplies
- Bring your favorite drinks

Prices:
\$40 for members
\$50 non-members

ADULT AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM

Follow
us on
social

KEEP IN TOUCH AND...

FIND US ON FACEBOOK @

"Clinton County
Farm Bureau"

Our Website

www.clintoncofb.org



SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

CLINTON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, CARLYLE, IL

"KING OF CLINTON COUNTY"

1 P.M. START

Farm Stock
Southern Illinois Pullers Association
MITP • Truck Classes

ITPA PULLING CLASSES

7 P.M. START

PULLING

FOR AGRICULTURE



IAA Credit Union
has proudly
provided financial
services to the
Illinois Farm
Bureau since 1951.

www.iaacu.org/join

808 IAA Drive, Bloomington, IL 61701



FARM GATE

By Joanie Stiers



Roads, Rivers & Rails *Transportation Carries Crops,* *Vacation Memories*

Dad would pack the car better than an elite gamer playing Tetris, preparing to start our road trip the next day. Well, barely the next. We'd commonly leave at 2 a.m. for a vacation of sightseeing, tourist stops, hotel swimming pools and almost always an amusement park. Mom disliked air travel, and Dad liked getting up early, so we stayed on the ground and made good time while normal humans slept. For a few hours, the interstate felt like our gravel road: seldom traveled.

We were a classic farm family on a road trip vacation, packing our farmer tans, Dad's sun-deprived legs, emergency tools and a CB radio in the Chevrolet Celebrity (great for traffic reports from truckers). We watched the sunrise, drove through implement dealership parking lots and assessed strangers' crops from the windshield. My brother and I packed the floorboards with games and the seats with pillows. Mom provided doses of grape Dramamine and, at one time, the luxury of a mini-TV powered by the cigarette lighter.

Route 66 celebrates its 100th anniversary this year with festivities in eight states, including Illinois, home to 300 miles of the Mother Road. The timing feels right to reflect on Illinois' competitive access to roads, rivers and rails that collectively move people,

products and services. Illinois' system of interstates ranks third in the nation. Our rail, the second largest. Our rivers are unmatched in a state literally shaped by water, awarding Illinois the largest and most important inland river system in the United States.

Widely underappreciated in our everyday thinking, these modes of transportation influence our daily lives, the hidden link that connects us and the world to vehicle fuel, toilet paper, computers, fresh beef and out-of-season strawberries—a sprawling list of needed and wanted goods and services that fill our homes, schools and businesses. Illinois' transportation network and central position helps agriculture remain the No. 1 industry in Illinois. Roads, rivers and rails give farms access to domestic end users and export markets for crops and livestock, delivering food, feed, fuel and clothing to places most of us never stop to consider.

Hard wired to farm time, my family woke before the hotel breakfast. On a three-generation family trip to Disney, we were the first in line—every park, every day—theoretically earning what felt like our own FastPass advantage. We started the road trip home slightly less anxious and in the daylight but felt mentally recharged when we crossed back into the Land of Lincoln.

About the author: Joanie Stiers farms with her family in West Central Illinois, where they raise corn, soybeans, hay, beef cattle, backyard chickens and farm kids.



A Century of Trust

In 1925, a group of Illinois farmers came together to provide fire and lightning insurance, helping to ensure their farms and crops would be protected. Over the next century, COUNTRY Financial® grew to offer a diverse range of personal and business insurance products, as well as retirement and investment services.

Over the next 100 years, our insurance will do more to protect you and your loved ones, so you can enjoy the moments that make your life full.

COUNTRY Financial® is the marketing name for the COUNTRY Financial family of affiliated companies (collectively, COUNTRY), which include COUNTRY Life Insurance Company®, COUNTRY Mutual Insurance Company®, and their respective subsidiaries, located in Bloomington, IL. 0125-042CP



Congratulations to the 2026–2027 Section 21 FFA Officer Team



Leading the team is President Maliah Riechmann of Nashville, alongside Vice President Shaylen Rowland of Mt. Vernon, Reporter Cooper Diekemper of Carlyle, Secretary Sawyer Johnson of Carlyle FFA, Treasurer Lilly Winka of Waltonville, Sentinel Madalynn Adams of Mt. Vernon. We are especially proud to have strong representation from Clinton County, with two local students serving on the team—Breese Central's Addison Tebbe and Breese Mater Dei's Addison Hilmes. Your leadership and dedication to agricultural education continue to make our community proud!



Freelance movie producer Sam Goldberg grew up in New York City, but it's rural America that captured his interest as a filmmaker.

Beginning in 2019 with his feature film *Silo*, Goldberg seeks to bridge the urban-rural divide through the power of narrative storytelling.

In this episode of *Taking Stalk*, Goldberg tells host Rita Frazer about a forthcoming release of a six-part limited series titled *Perfect Sundays*. Set in the heart of rural America, the story chronicles the journey of a multigenerational farm family that seeks to dig their way out of economic challenge and emotional paralysis.

Episode 42
Telling stories from farm country
with Sam Goldberg

Scan to listen



Listen: FarmWeekNow.com/podcasts
(or wherever you listen to podcast)

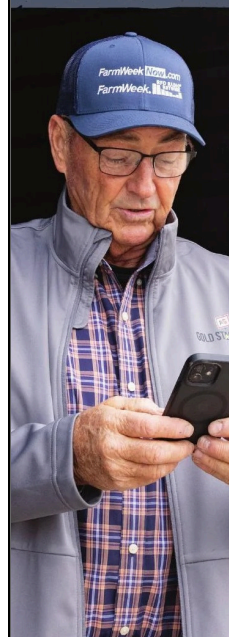


Wesclin High School 2026-27 FFA Officer Team

Pictured from left: President- Jorja Wernle; Vice President- Brooke Schomaker; Secretary- Brady Twenhafel; Reporter- Ella Sax; Treasurer- Bryton Sullivan; Sentinel- Lali Campos; Historian- Nolan Langenfeld.

ALL AG. ALL ILLINOIS. ALL YOU NEED.

The Most Trusted News for Illinois Agriculture



FarmWeek® Online E-edition

FarmWeek® online E-edition is ready to view bright and early each Monday morning with all the full story details. Read it before the paper edition arrives.

FarmWeekNow.com/eedition



**RFD RADIO®
NETWORK**

FarmWeek®

FarmWeekNow.com

Mark Guthrie
Farmer, Henry County

I Scream, You Scream, We All Scream for Ice Cream!

Ice cream, frozen custard, frozen yogurt: it seems like every shop has a different name for their signature frozen dairy treat, but are they really all the same? Take a look to see what the differences are in these desserts!



Traditional Ice Cream

Standard, scoopable ice cream with 10%-18% milk fat and a firm, dense, and creamy texture.



Soft Serve Ice Cream

Lower fat content (3-6% milk fat) and higher air content than traditional ice cream, lending to the soft and fluffy texture.



Frozen Custard

Similar to traditional ice cream with 10-18% milk fat, but also contains egg yolks, giving it a smoother texture.



Gelato

Italian-style ice cream with less milk fat content (4-8%), churned more slowly, and often served at a warmer temperature than traditional ice cream, resulting in a denser, softer, and richer texture with more pronounced flavor.



Frozen Yogurt

Made with yogurt instead of milk and cream, giving it a tangier flavor and less fat content (0.5%-6%) than traditional ice cream, and has more air, giving it a similar texture to soft serve.



Sherbert

Fruit-based frozen dessert, made with fruit juice or puree, sugar, water, and a small amount of cream (usually 1%-2% milk fat), making it lighter and more granular in texture than traditional ice cream.



Sorbet

Fruit-based frozen dessert that is made from fruit juice or puree, sugar, and water, but contains no dairy, resulting in a lighter and icier texture due to the lack of fat content (0% milk fat).

What is Milk Fat?

Milk fat is the natural fat content found in dairy products, made up of fatty acids and usually measured in percentages. The texture, flavor, and richness of dairy products can be altered depending on the milk fat content. Think about the differences between 2% milk, whole milk, half & half, and heavy whipping cream: it all comes down to milk fat!



AGRICULTURE ADVENTURES FOR FAMILIES



Did you know that June is National Dairy Month? It's the perfect time to celebrate all things dairy!

WHAT IS DAIRY?

Dairy includes milk and the food products produced from or containing the milk of mammals, such as cheese, butter, yogurt, and ice cream.

WHAT IS MILK?

According to the USDA and FDA, milk is "the lacteal secretion, practically free from colostrum, obtained by the complete milking of one or more healthy cows (or other hooved animals)." Soy milk, almond milk, rice milk, oat milk, and coconut milk are not "milk;" they are juices created from dairy-free plant alternatives to milk.



WHAT IS PASTEURIZATION?

Pasteurization was invented by French chemist and microbiologist Louis Pasteur in 1864 as a way to prevent beer and wine from souring. **Pasteurization is a preservation process that reduces harmful pathogens** (such as Salmonella and E. coli) and extends product shelf life. The process involves heating the product to a specific temperature for a set time, followed by cooling. Items commonly pasteurized include milk and dairy products, fruit and vegetable juices, beer, wine, and eggs.

DAIRY BREEDS

There are seven different dairy cow breeds in the United States. The most common breed in the U.S. is Holstein. Holsteins are black and white. Other popular breeds include: Jersey, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Ayrshire, Milking Shorthorn, and Red and White Holstein. They can be tan, brownish gray, golden brown, reddish brown or shades of these colors with patches. Some breeds produce a lot of milk and some breeds produce milk with a lot of butterfat. Farmers consider this when choosing a breed of dairy cows. Farmers improve their herd through genetics and select cows that produce more milk or have a higher butterfat content in their milk.



Guernsey



Jersey



Red and White Holstein calf



Brown Swiss



Shorthorn



Holstein



Ayrshire and calf

DAIRY EVERYDAY

Many dairy products can be found in the grocery store. These include milk, flavored milk, ice cream, cheese, butter, yogurt, cheese, sour cream, whipped cream, cottage cheese, and buttermilk. What is your favorite way to eat dairy?

MILK

Milk comes in a variety of types. Types of milk vary based on the percentage of milkfat, or the amount of fat that is in the milk by weight. The main types of milk are whole milk (3.25% milkfat), reduced-fat milk (2%), low-fat milk (1%) and fat-free milk, also known as skim milk.

ICE CREAM

Ice cream is a very popular dessert. At any given time, 87% of Americans have it in their homes! Milk and cream are the main ingredients in ice cream. It takes 12 pounds of whole milk to make 1 gallon of ice cream. Most Americans prefer vanilla over any other flavor. What is your favorite flavor?

CHEESE

Cheese is another nutritious food made from milk. The average American eats over 37 pounds of cheese each year! There are many different varieties of cheese, and cheese can be found in many of our favorite foods. Mozzarella and cheddar are the two most popular types of cheese in the United States. Do you have a favorite type of cheese? What is your favorite way to eat cheese?

YOGURT

The two main ingredients in yogurt are milk and bacterial cultures. Milk strengthens our teeth and bones while the cultures help fight infection and boost our immune system. Yogurt is a fun way to add calcium to your diet. There are many different varieties and flavors of yogurt to enjoy!



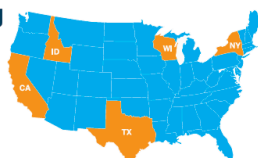
Fun Fact:

The ice cream sundae originated in Evanston, IL.

dairy data

The Top 5 Milk Producing States:

1. California
2. Wisconsin
3. Idaho
4. New York
5. Texas



Illinois...

has over 450 licensed dairy herds.

has approximately 81,000 dairy cows.

ranked 22nd in milk production in the United States.

On average, each dairy cow produces 8-10 gallons of milk per day. That is over 100 glasses per day!



Each year, U.S. dairy farmers provide milk to make more than 1 billion pounds of butter, 7 billion pounds of cheese, and 1 billion gallons of ice cream.



95% of U.S. dairy farms are family-owned.



KEEP IN TOUCH AND...

Follow
us on
socialFACEBOOK
FIND US ON FACEBOOK @
"Clinton County
Farm Bureau"Our Website
www.clintoncofb.org

Ag in the Classroom wraps up successful year

The school year has come to a close for the AITC program here in Clinton County!

Our fourth-grade students had an excellent year learning about everything from Roads, Rivers and Rails to Fields, Floods and Forestry. The kids discovered more about the many products produced in Illinois and how each of us can help care for our earth every day.

In April, the students took a trip "across the world" to gather all the ingredients needed to make an apple pie. Believe it or not, many of those ingredients — including wheat, butter, eggs and apples — can all be found right here within Illinois state borders!

Each year, Mrs. Kleiboeker asks the fourth-graders to share their favorite lessons from the year. This year, students loved learning about nutrition and

discovering how much sugar is hidden in soda, playing "The Wheel of Pumpkin" while learning how pumpkins connect to literature and Illinois agriculture, studying Illinois state symbols, and exploring how Route 66 began in Illinois. They even learned to dance the Charleston just like people did in 1926 while celebrating the 100th birthday of the Mother Road!

But by far, the favorite lesson of the year was playing Mrs. Kleiboeker's "Game of Life." Students traded commodities throughout the activity without realizing it until the very end. They learned that you can have all the money and gold in the world, but without clean air, sunshine, healthy soil, fresh water and the plants we grow, none of us would survive.

It's getting HOT, HOT, HOT and we have these COOL deals for you....



CCFB PRICE: \$37.99
Regular price: \$42.99



SAVE 32% ON TICKETS



CCFB PRICE: \$31.99
Regular price: \$39.99



THEME PARK
CCFB PRICE: \$95
Regular price: \$106



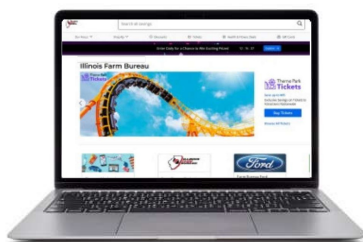
CCFB PRICE: \$37.99
Regular price: \$69.99



ONE STOP SAVINGS!
Access exclusive deals and savings on thousands of your favorite brands, all in one place.
Visit ilfb.benefitHub.com to start saving!!!

For more details and to purchase tickets, visit: ilfb.benefitHub.com or download the membership app on your phone

DESKTOP



1. Go to <https://ilfb.benefitHub.com>.
2. Sign in with your existing username and password or register as a new user by selecting "Don't have an account? Sign up. You will need your membership number to complete sign up."
3. Find the best deals and start saving!

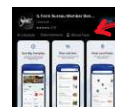
MOBILE APP

ANDROID



1. Go to Google Play and search for **Illinois Farm Bureau Member Benefits** and install the app.
2. Once installed, you will see a log in button. Click it and sign in with your existing BenefitHub account or register to create one. You will need your membership number which can be found on the front of your membership card.
3. Once logged in, you will see a welcome page, spotlight offers and a search bar to explore all the savings offered on the platform. Click on the menu button (gear icon at the bottom of the screen) to see all categories.

iPHONE



1. Go to the App Store and search for **Illinois Farm Bureau Member Benefits** and install the app.
2. Once installed, you will see a log in button. Click it and sign in with your existing BenefitHub account or register to create one. You will need your membership number which can be found on the front of your membership card.
3. Once logged in, you will see a welcome page, spotlight offers and a search bar to explore all the savings offered on the platform. Click on the menu button (gear icon at the bottom of the screen) to see all categories.



Discounted Tailgate N' Tallboys Tickets available to members

Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB) is partnering with COUNTRY Financial to celebrate agriculture during the 10th anniversary of the COUNTRY Financial Tailgate N' Tallboys music festival, taking place June 18–21, 2026, at the McLean

County Fairgrounds/Interstate Center in Bloomington, Illinois.

Expanded to four days for its milestone anniversary, the festival will feature headliners Zach Top, Jessie Murph, Treaty Oak Revival, and The Red Clay Strays, along with performances

by Gavin Adcock, BigXthaPlug, Wyatt Flores, Chase Matthew, Muscadine Bloodline, Cameron Whitcomb, and many other artists. Organizers added a Sunday finale to this year's lineup, with existing three-day weekend ticket holders automatically receiving access to the fourth day.

The partnership between IFB and COUNTRY Financial provides an opportunity to celebrate agriculture, maintain a

presence at a major community event, and engage with current and prospective members.

Illinois Farm Bureau members can purchase discounted festival tickets by entering the discount code COUNTRY at checkout when purchasing tickets online. The discount is not valid on previously purchased tickets.

Tickets and festival information are available at <https://tailgatentallboys.com>

Dairy Tech Tour set for July 16

The Illinois Milk Producers Association will host its annual Dairy Tech Tour at Henrichs Dairy in Breese July 16.

Henrichs Dairy recently installed a new 40-cow rotary milking parlor. Attendees will hear presentations from those involved with the project, learn about the equipment used and have the opportunity to ask questions about siting and the

process for similar projects. Viewing the farm's new freestyle barn and learning how it works within the operation will also be a highlight for attendees.

Tours begin at 10 a.m., followed by lunch and presentations at noon and self-guided tours at 1 p.m.

To register email contact@illinoismilk.org or call 309-557-3703.



DISCOUNTED TAILGATE N' TALLBOYS TICKETS FOR MEMBERS

JUNE 18TH - 21ST 2026 **BLOOMINGTON ILLINOIS**

THURSDAY
ZACH TOP
 GAVIN ADCOCK • BRAXTON KEITH
 KAITLIN BUTTS • COLE GOODWIN
 THE CREEKERS • TYCE DELK • EDDIE & THE GETAWAY

FRIDAY
TREATY OAK REVIVAL
 WYATT FLORES • CHASE MATTHEW
 WAYLON WYATT • GRAHAM BARHAM
 STERLING ELZA • TYLER NANCE • CHANDLER WALTERS

SATURDAY
JESSIE MURPH
 BIGXTHAPLUG • CAMERON WHITCOMB
 COOPER ALAN • DREW DALDRIDGE
 THE JACK WHARFF DAND • JAY WEBB • SHAYLEN

SUNDAY
THE RED CLAY STRAYS
 MUSCADINE BLOODLINE • ZACH JOHN KING
 PHIL KANE • CONNOR HICKS
 LONDON WILKS • OWEN KNAP

HOSTED BY **RAISED ROWDY**
 FESTIVAL DJ **DJ CLIFFY D**

TAILGATENTALLBOYS.COM **PEACHTREE ENTERTAINMENT** **USA**

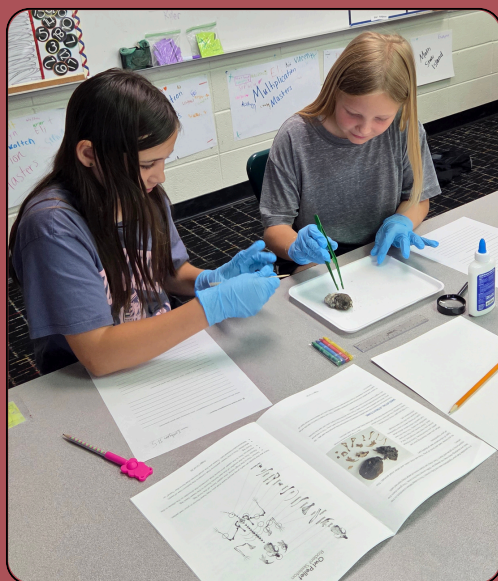
2026
DAIRY TECH TOUR
HENRICH'S DAIRY

THURSDAY, JULY 16
 STARTS AT 10:00 AM

ILLINOIS MILK PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

MILK

CLASSROOM GRANT PROJECTS



Germantown 4th Grade

Students explored the important connection between owls and agriculture during a hands-on owl pellet dissection lesson. Through the activity, students learned how owls benefit farmers by naturally controlling rodent populations that can damage crops and stored grain.

By examining owl pellets, students identified bones from small animals such as mice and voles, gaining a better understanding of an owl's diet and the important role predators play in maintaining balance within agricultural ecosystems. The engaging lesson provided an exciting opportunity to connect science, wildlife, and agriculture in a meaningful way.



HOW FARM BUREAU SERVED YOU

MAY 2026



- 1** Illinois Farm Bureau coordinated member action on year-round E15 legislation, driving more than 1,100 contacts with legislators. The bill advanced out of the U.S. House of Representatives with every Illinois representative voting yes, helping move farmers closer to stronger corn demand and greater market stability.
- 2** IFB mobilized members in support of the 2026 farm bill. More than 1,300 members contacted legislators to support the bill, which passed the U.S. House of Representatives.
- 3** IFB invested in future agricultural leaders by bringing together top FFA and 4-H youth for leadership and professional development through the Premier 20 Leadership Conference.
- 4** IFB partnered with the University of Illinois for an eight-part educational series, "Breaking Down Biologicals," giving members trusted information about biological products and their role in modern agriculture.



Aviston 4th Grade

Our class studied the Midwest region with a focus on agriculture. Students read books and created slideshows to share what they learned about the region. As part of a hands-on learning experience, we incubated 60 chicken eggs and 18 duck eggs, numbering each one to keep track. Students weighed and candled the eggs on days 1, 7, 14, and 18, recording observations throughout development. Each student followed their "own" egg, taking notes and drawing what they expected to see as it grew. Over the course of a couple of weeks, they were able to observe rapid growth and how quickly feathers began to develop.



CLASSROOM GRANT PROJECTS



Aviston 4th Grade

Students explore the different regions of the United States and compare them to our Midwest region, with a special focus on farming and agriculture. Throughout the unit, students create a book highlighting important features, products, and events from each region. To bring their learning to life, students participate in an educational field trip experience. At Behrmann Meat Processing, they follow the process from livestock to the retail room while learning about the role of meat processing in agriculture. At Top Ag in Trenton, students discover how grain is processed, stored, and transported by rail and along the Mississippi River. The trip concludes at Poettker Farms, where students learn how dairy cows are raised and how crops are planted and cultivated. This hands-on experience helps students connect classroom lessons to real-world agriculture in our Midwest region.



Aviston 3rd Grade

Students were introduced to plant life cycles and parts of a plant through videos and books. After building background knowledge, they planted a variety of vegetable seeds in Styrofoam cups and observed how different seeds grow at different rates. They also planted flowers for Mother's Day, which added a fun seasonal connection to the unit. Throughout the unit, students documented their observations in journals with written notes and illustrations showing plant growth over time. They especially enjoyed watching the daily changes in their plants and taking home their painted plant canvases. To wrap up the unit, students participated in a vegetable soup tasting which quickly became a favorite.



2026

FARMING FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

ILLINOIS FARM BUREAU ANNUAL MEETING

SAVE THE DATE
DECEMBER 12-15, 2026

Hyatt Regency, Chicago, Illinois



"FARMING WEIRD"

**Might just be
the smartest
thing you do
this year!**



Jason Mauck

FEATURED SPEAKER

Jason Mauck farms in Indiana with his family and is passionately curious about all things agriculture. Through his company, Constant Canopy, Jason is helping shape the future of farming by developing regenerative solutions for producing and sharing food, energy, and nutrients. He believes the sharing economy will transform every industry — including agriculture — in the years ahead.

Known for thinking differently about modern agriculture, Jason focuses on innovative relay cropping systems that use cash and cover crops in unison to improve efficiency and soil health. Farming approximately 3,000 acres of corn, soybeans, and wheat, along with raising 25,000 hogs annually, he continues to push the boundaries of production agriculture.

Constant Canopy has developed cutting-edge farming methods and currently holds the Indiana state record for highest soybean yield per acre, while also creating scalable systems for corn yields that outperform many high-test plot results. A pioneer of relay cropping, Jason is blazing a new path by narrowing the gaps in agriculture and uncovering new opportunities for the next generation of farmers.



You'll Learn

Learn innovative relay cropping and regenerative farming strategies designed to improve soil health, efficiency, and crop productivity for the next generation of agriculture.



AUGUST 8, 2026

LUNCH PROVIDED



SUGAR CREEK VALLEY FARMS



WWW.CLINTONCOFB.ORG

FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Register by August 1
by scanning QR Code**



SCAN ME



Funded in part through a 2026 IFB Nutrient Stewardship Grant



(618) 526-7235



www.clintoncofb.org



1165 N 4th St., Breese, IL 62230