

Clinton County Farm Bureau to Host Nutrient Stewardship Field Day Featuring National Regenerative Agriculture Leaders

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

The Clinton County Farm Bureau (CFB) invites farmers, landowners, agribusiness professionals, and conservation-minded individuals to attend its 2026 Nutrient Stewardship Field Day on Saturday, August 8th at Sugar Creek Valley Farms (12555 Poettker Road) in Aviston. The event is funded in part through an Illinois Farm Bureau Nutrient Stewardship Grant and will provide attendees with practical, real-world insights into regenerative agriculture, soil

health, profitability, and emerging technologies shaping the future of farming.

This year's program features nationally recognized speaker Jason Mauck from Indiana. Known throughout the agricultural industry as "Farming Weird," Mauck has become a leading voice for innovative relay-cropping systems, regenerative farming practices, and challenging conventional thinking in production agriculture. Through his

company, Constant Canopy, he develops systems that integrate cash and cover crops to improve soil health, increase efficiency, and maximize productivity.

Mauck farms approximately 3,000 acres of corn, soybeans, and wheat while also raising 25,000 hogs annually. His innovative approaches have helped establish Indiana state records for soybean production and created scalable cropping systems that continue to push the boundaries of modern



Jason Mauck
Featured Speaker

Continue on page 2 - **Mauck**

"Pulling for Agriculture" Tractor Pull Returns September 19th

The Clinton County Farm Bureau (CFB) Foundation will host its 3rd annual "Pulling for Agriculture" tractor pull fundraiser on Saturday, September 19, 2026, at the Clinton County Fairgrounds in Carlyle.

The event will feature a full day of tractor and truck pulling action beginning at 1:00 p.m. with "King of Clinton County" classes, Southern Illinois Pullers Association (SIPA) classes, Midwest Illinois Truck & Tractor Pullers (MITTP) classes, farm stock tractors, and multiple truck classes. Evening competition begins at 7:00 p.m. and will feature Illinois Tractor Pulling Association (ITPA) sanctioned



classes, including Pro Farm, Limited Pro Stock, Pro Stock, Light Modified, and Heavy Modified divisions. Admission is \$20 for adults, \$10 for youth ages 11-17, and free for children ages 10 and under. Active

Clinton County Farm Bureau member households may purchase discounted adult tickets in advance from the Farm Bureau office beginning September 1st.

Food concessions will be available throughout the day from local FFA chapters.

All proceeds from the event benefit the Clinton CFB Foundation Scholarship

Continue on page 3 - **Pull**



*Christmas
in July*
**NUTCRACKER
Paint Party**



Participants gathered for our first Summer Adult Ag in the Classroom Workshop, the Christmas in July Nutcracker Paint Party. Attendees spent the evening creating their own unique wooden nutcracker masterpieces while enjoying a delicious charcuterie spread, great company, and plenty of creative fun.



Mauck

Continued from page 1

agriculture. During the field day, attendees will learn how innovative relay-cropping and regenerative management strategies can improve soil function, increase productivity, and create new opportunities for the next generation of agriculture.

In addition to Mauck's keynote presentation, attendees will hear from Lauren Sprung, Director of Sourcing and Supply Chain Development for Regenified. Sprung's presentation, "The Science Behind the Financials," will explore the relationship between regenerative agriculture practices and farm profitability.

As consumer demand and marketplace interest in regenerative products continue to grow, Sprung will discuss how improvements in soil health, water infiltration, nutrient cycling, biodiversity, and ecosystem function can contribute to stronger financial outcomes and greater resilience for farming operations. Her presentation will also examine emerging market opportunities available to producers implementing regenerative practices, including supply chain partnerships, certification programs, and value-added opportunities. Regenified's



Photo Credit: Jason Mauck

Once wheat is harvested, soybeans can feed on decaying wheat roots and gobble up sunshine, allowing better growth and yield.

science-based verification system focuses on measuring both regenerative practices and outcomes, helping farmers document ecological improvements while creating connections to growing regenerative markets.

The field day will also feature a variety of hands-on learning opportunities and demonstrations, including:

- A guided tour of the Clinton County Farm Bureau's cover crop demonstration plots, highlighting current research, management

strategies, and practical applications for Southern Illinois farms.

- A farmer panel discussion featuring producers sharing their firsthand experiences with cover crops, conservation practices, soil health improvements, and regenerative agriculture.
- Live agricultural drone demonstrations provided by L&R Ag, showcasing how drone technology is being utilized for crop scouting, precision applications, data collection, and improved farm management decisions.
- Discussions focused on nutrient stewardship strategies that improve both environmental outcomes and long-term farm sustainability.

"One of the goals of our Nutrient Stewardship Program is to provide practical information that producers can take home and apply on their own operations," said Mark Litteken, Clinton CFB President and host

farmer. "Whether a farmer is just beginning to explore soil health principles and cover crops or has years of experience implementing regenerative practices, this field day offers valuable information, networking opportunities, and real-world examples from producers who are actively putting these concepts into practice." Lunch will be provided for all registered attendees. Registration is requested by August 1st. For additional information or to register, contact the Clinton County Farm Bureau office at (618) 526-7235 or visit www.clintoncofb.org. The Nutrient Stewardship Field Day is funded in part through a 2026 Illinois Farm Bureau Nutrient Stewardship Grant and reflects Clinton County Farm Bureau's ongoing commitment to advancing soil health, improving water quality, promoting nutrient stewardship, and supporting the long-term sustainability and profitability of Illinois agriculture.

2026 NUTRIENT STEWARDSHIP FIELD DAY



**AUG
08**

9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

RAIN OR SHINE | LUNCH PROVIDED

SUGAR CREEK VALLEY FARMS

12555 POETTKER ROAD | AVISTON, IL



RSVP BY: MONDAY, AUG 3 SCAN QR CODE

INFO: WWW.CLINTONCOFB.ORG

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"Clinton County
Farm Bureau"

Our Website

www.clintoncofb.org

Follow us on social

Pull

Continued from page 1

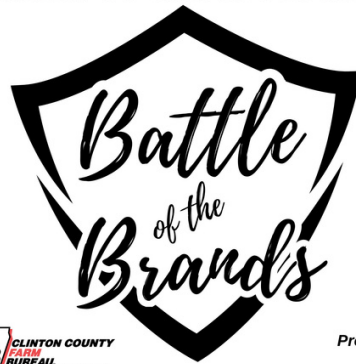
Program, helping support local students pursuing higher education and careers in agriculture and related fields. To date, the Clinton CFB Foundation has awarded more than \$526,000 in scholarships to local students, helping invest in the future of agriculture and our rural communities.

For more information, contact the Clinton County Farm Bureau office at (618) 526-7271 or check out our website.

ENTER TO WIN A PEDAL TRACTOR FROM YOUR FAVORITE BRAND

\$10 PER TICKET - ONLY 400 TICKETS AVAILABLE

Winning brand will also have a bragging rights drawing for \$100 cash prize



Proceeds to benefit the Clinton County Farm Bureau Foundation Scholarship Programs
*One of each brand, John Deere, Case IH and Massey Ferguson

Tickets available at the Farm Bureau office or any CCFB Young Leader

SATURDAY | SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

CLINTON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, CARLYLE, IL

ITPA PULLING CLASSES

7 P.M. START

- 9,500 lb Ltd. Pro Stock
- Heavy Modified
- 8,500 lb Ltd. Pro Stock
- Light Modified
- 11,000 lb Pro Farm
- Pro Stock
- 9,500 lb Pro Farm



A fundraiser for the CFB Foundation to support our Scholarship Programs.

"KING OF CLINTON COUNTY" PULL 1 P.M. START

"KING OF CLINTON COUNTY" CLASSES

- 7,500 lb Farm Stock
- SIPL 5,500 lb Top Cut
- 10,500 lb Farm Stock
- SIPL 5,500 lb - 10 MPH
- 12,500 lb Farm Stock
- SIPL 12,500 lb - 15 MPH
- 20,000 lb Farm Stock
- SIPL 13,000 lb - 10 MPH
- 12,500+ (MITTP)
- Multiple Truck Classes
- FACTORY DIESEL • FACTORY GAS
- HOT STREET GAS • SUPER STOCK GAS
- WORK STOCK DIESEL

ALL DAY ADMISSION:

\$20 (ages 18+) • \$10 (ages 11-17) 10 & under FREE

Active Clinton CFB member households get \$5 **ADULT** ticket discounts when purchased in advance from the Farm Bureau office starting September 1.

FREE PARKING

CONCESSIONS
AVAILABLE
ALL DAY



FROM
COUNTY
FFA
CHAPTERS

MORE INFO AND
EVENT UPDATES ON
OUR WEBSITE





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FARM GATE *By Joanie Stiers*

Raised on Flags, Fields & Freedom

The patriotic-wrapped tractor combined two of our son's favorite things: The Magnum-model CaseIH tractor and the U.S. flag.

America's 250th anniversary gave me one of those Mom moments where delight comes from anticipating your child's joy. I snapped photos and videos of our son solo and with Grandpa by the showstopper at the 2026 National Farm Machinery Show in Kentucky. Afterward, I worked obsessively from my phone to order the replica flag-wrapped toy, which had sold out the previous day.

Our son's admiration for the American flag first became evident when he picked out t-shirts with the symbol as a child. Then, it was hats with flags. Patriotic swim trunks. American flag decorations for his room, and a flag image on his first credit card. For a 4-H project, he made wooden U.S. flags out of 13, 1-by-2-inch strips of wood, a butane torch and red- and blue-colored wood stain.

The flag stood as something bigger than the cloth (and wood) itself even if he didn't yet fully understand the feeling of home, pride, identity, safety, belonging and history. I can only credit rural patriotism, as rural Americans proudly display flags on front porches, fire stations, county fairgrounds and farm bins. We associate the feeling it delivers with church potlucks, sweet

corn stands, small-town Friday night football and a slice of pie filled with homegrown cherries.

I gifted my husband a flagpole in the front landscaping for his 40th birthday. Our daughter was "stationed by the flag" as the FFA state reporter, so we put her jacket in a shadow box with a flag retired from the state capitol and folded by local veterans. As much as we love the flag, we also know loving America means acknowledging we haven't got everything right. In the end, America is something we steward, like farmland itself and our freedom to improve it.

At the farm, we own a roll of patriotic net wrap for making flag-wrapped round hay bales for decoration at our community ag festival. The bales, flipped on end with flag poles in them, emulate the festival's feeling of Americana—home, tradition, pride and simple joys like homemade pie, tractors, apple peeling and free family fun.

As a birthday surprise six weeks after the farm show, our son received a three-pack of flag-wrapped toy tractors—a second of which also appeared at the show: a 1976 Case 1570 from America's 200th anniversary. I hope he can tell his grandkids he witnessed a full century of history when the 300th anniversary edition makes its debut.

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

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SOIL TESTING

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



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.



Episode 44

More than skin deep: A conversation on farming, skin cancer and hope

Working in agriculture often means spending long hours in the sun — and a heightened risk for skin cancer.

Stephanie Porter, an outreach agronomist with the Illinois Soybean Association, experienced this firsthand nearly seven years ago. A sore spot that wouldn't heal led to a melanoma diagnosis teetering on the edge of Stage 4 cancer.

In this conversation with host Rita Frazer, Porter shares her story of recovery and Dr. Gaurav Singh, a dermatologist and surgeon with City of Hope, shares simple, practical ways to reduce skin cancer risk and recognize warning signs early.

Scan to listen



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

YOUNG LEADER SOUTHERN IL AG TOUR

DETAILS

Date: Saturday, August 29

Location: Walker's Bluff Casino Resort

Cost: \$100

Registration: Register with your County Farm Bureau Manager

Lodging: Available at Walker's Bluff Casino Resort

- \$189.95/night

- Call (618) 993-7777 and say Illinois Farm Bureau to receive discounted rate

Schedule

9:00 AM: Welcome & Keynote

- **Welcome** from IFB Young Leader Chair Garrett Williams
- **IFB Update** from IFB President Philip Nelson
- **Motivational Speech** from Prairie Farms CEO Matt McClelland

12:00 PM: Tour Departs Hotel

- Agronomy Track
 - SIU Farm Tour
- Diversified Ag Track
 - Starview Vineyards
 - Rolling Oak Alpaca Ranch

4:30 PM: Evening at Flamm's Orchard

- Orchard and facility tour
- Dinner, live band, and networking

8:00 PM: Depart Flamm's Orchard and Arrive Back at Walker's Bluff



CLINTON COUNTY FAIR STAR SPANGLED Salute

2025 FAIR SCHEDULE

★ SATURDAY, JULY 11TH

- 8 am** Who's the Fairest 5k (South Gate)
6 pm Carnival rides open

★ SUNDAY, JULY 12TH

- 8 am** 4-H Rabbit Judging, Poultry to follow-
Rabbit in the 618 Event Center
10 am-4 pm Entries accepted in the Science & Arts Building
2 pm Dedication of the 618 Event Center by Bishop
Godfrey Mullen
- Escorted by the Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Bishop Althoff Assembly
 - Raising of the American Flag-Representatives of the Holthaus-Kampwerth American Legion in Beckemeyer
 - Reception to follow
- 6 pm** Carnival rides open
7 pm Fair Swine Weigh In

★ MONDAY, JULY 13TH

- 7 am** 4-H Dairy Judging in the 618 Event Center
10 am Fair Dairy Judging in the 618 Event Center
6 pm Fair Parade- Theme "Star Spangled Salute"
6 pm Carnival rides open
8:30 pm appx Barnyard Olympics in the 618 Event Center
Immediately after parade - Presented by
Pageant Committee & Queen Contestants

★ TUESDAY, JULY 14TH

- 7:30 am** 4-H Swine Judging in the 618 Event Center
9 am Fair Swine Judging in the 618 Event Center
6 pm Carnival rides open
6:30 pm Southern Illinois Pullers League, Illinois
Stock Pullers, & Hot Street Gas Arena
**Admission: Adult \$12; Under 12 \$6;
Under 6 Free; Pit Pass \$20**

★ GENERAL INFORMATION ★



Concessions, Vendors, &
Carnival open Monday
through Saturday at 6pm.



Science & Arts Building opens
after the parade until 10 pm on
Monday. 6-9 pm Tuesday - Friday;
1 - 3 pm Tuesday



Exhibition Building opens at
5:30 pm Monday thru Saturday



PARKING - \$5.00 a night or
PARKING PASS - \$14.00 for the week

★ WEDNESDAY, JULY 15TH

RAIN DATE FOR PARADE

- 6:30 am** 4-H Beef & Sheep Weigh-In
8 am Fair Sheep Weigh-In
8:30 am 4-H Beef Judging
11:30 am 4-H Goat Judging, Sheep to follow
in the 618 Event Center
1:30 pm 4-H Junior Master Showmanship in the 618
Event Center 4-H Master Showmanship
(following Jr. Master)
3 pm Fair Steer Weigh In
6 pm Carnival rides open
6:30 pm Fair Sheep Judging in the 618 Event Center
7 pm Clinton County Farm Tractor Pull featuring
Kevin Kampwerth Memorial Classes Arena
**Admission: Adult \$12; Under 12 \$6;
Under 6 Free; Pit Pass \$20**

★ THURSDAY, JULY 16TH

- 9 am** Fair Beef Open Judging in the 618 Event Center -
Junior then Steers to follow
5 pm Lego® build competition-Legacy Building
sponsored by the Friends of Carlyle Lake
6 pm FFA Pedal Pull (in the pits by Announcers bldg.)
6 pm Free games and prizes from the Clinton County
Farm Bureau Young Leaders
6 pm Carnival rides open
7 pm Zero Turn Mower Barrel Racing- Arena
Arena Admission: Free for all ages

★ FRIDAY, JULY 17TH

- 6 pm** Carnival rides open
7 pm Jr. Livestock Auction in the 618 Event Center
7 pm Whippoorwill Rodeo-Arena
**Arena Admission: Adult \$20 (Veterans \$15);
Under 12 \$10; Under 6 Free, Pit Pass \$25**
8 pm-12 am Band-Cheers- (Outside Legacy Building)

★ SATURDAY, JULY 18TH

- 1 pm** Miss Clinton County Fair Queen Pageant
(Kaskaskia College Auditorium)
Admission: Adult \$10; Under 12 \$5, Under 6 Free
6 pm Carnival rides open
7 pm Demolition Derby Arena
**Arena Admission: Adult \$20 (Veterans \$15);
Under 12 \$10; Under 6 Free**



**FAIRGROUNDS
PHONE NUMBER:
(618) 594-4169**



Email: clintoncofair@gmail.com for info or
clintoncofairenties@gmail.com for entries



www.clintoncofair.org



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Farm Bureau"Our Website
www.clintoncofb.orgIt's getting HOT, HOT, HOT and we
have these COOL deals for you....CCFB PRICE: \$37.99
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SAVE 32% ON TICKETS

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Regular price: \$106DOLLYWOOD'S SPLASH
COUNTRY
CCFB PRICE: \$55
Regular price: \$62ONE STOP SAVINGS!
Access exclusive deals and
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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 phoneSECTION OFFICER
APPAREL SPONSORSHIPCongratulations to the newly elected FFA Section Officers
from Clinton County schools representing both
Section 21 and Section 22!The officers recently stopped by the Clinton County Farm
Bureau office to pick up their custom garment bags, t-shirts,
and jackets. Each item was personalized to help them proudly
represent their schools, their sections, and the future of
agriculture throughout their year of service.We wish these outstanding student leaders the very best as
they serve their fellow FFA members and communities. Thank
you for your dedication to agricultural leadership—we can't
wait to see all you'll accomplish this year!

SECTION 21

REPORTER- COOPER DIEKEMPER

SECRETARY- SAWYER JOHNSON

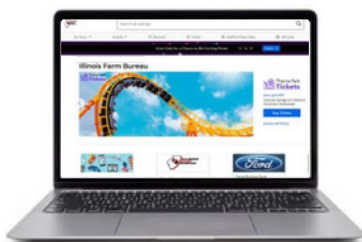
SECTION 22

SECRETARY: ADDISON HILMES

SENTINEL: ADDISON TEBBE



DESKTOP



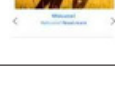
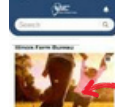
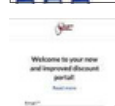
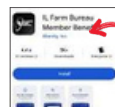
1. Go to <https://ilfb.benefithub.com>.
2. Sign in with your existing username and password or register as a new user by selecting "Don't have an account? Sign up. You will need your membership number to complete sign up."
3. Find the best deals and start saving!



MOBILE APP

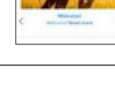
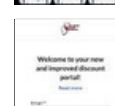
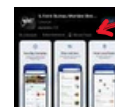
LOOK FOR THIS ICON ON
APPLE AND ANDROID!

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.

American ag deeply rooted in nation's history

Philip Nelson

Illinois Farm Bureau President

There is perhaps nothing more quintessentially American than our great nation's agricultural heritage. As we celebrate the 250th anniversary of our independence, we should stop for a moment during our cookouts and pool parties to reflect on the farm families who have fed, fueled and helped build this country from the very beginning.

Like nearly all Americans in the late 1700s, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and other founding fathers were farmers. They sacrificed, worked hard and made decisions not just for themselves, but for the generations that would follow.

In other words, they founded this nation on the spirit of agriculture: Just like you plant trees you may never sit under, they planted a legacy that we're

still realizing.

Illinois has always been at the heart of American agriculture. Abraham Lincoln created the U.S. Department of Agriculture and established the land-grant university system. The McCormick reaper — mass produced in Chicago — and John Deere's curved steel plow revolutionized farming.

Because of the work of those before us, the United States became an agricultural powerhouse, producing the equivalent of more than 5 million pounds of crops and animal products every minute, and Illinois is one of the great agricultural states in the nation. We are a leading producer of soybeans, corn, pork, pumpkins and horseradish.

But our history runs deeper than economic growth and innovation, and we are defined by more than our production.

Agriculture in Illinois is deeply personal. To this day, 96% of farms in Illinois are family owned, and some of them date back to before the founding of our nation.

Simply put: farming is a business and a way of life. It is one of those rare heritage occupations. Children see their parents care for the land and animals. They grow up on the farm, developing their own interest and passion for agriculture. They learn responsibility before the sun comes up. They value neighbors who show up when storms roll through. And they discover leadership in a blue and gold jacket.

As we celebrate America's 250th birthday, it's worth remembering that our nation was built by farmers and continues to be sustained by

them. Every meal we enjoy, every family gathering around the grill and every tradition we pass down is made possible by the men and women who work the land and care for livestock.

Their contributions often go unnoticed, but they are essential to our economy, our food security and our way of life. So, as we gather with family and friends, let's take a moment to appreciate the farmers who make those celebrations possible.

And as we look toward America's next 250 years, let's work together to ensure family farms have the tools, certainty and support they need to continue feeding, fueling and growing our nation for generations to come.

We have inherited a remarkable legacy. Now it is our turn to carry it forward.

Adult Ag in the Classroom
WORKSHOP SERIES

We are excited to bring back our winter series of "Adult Ag in the Classroom"!

Pumpkin Floral Workshop
November 23

Holiday Porch Pots
December 3

Crushed Glass Suncatcher
February 5

Follow us on Facebook for more information and registration links!

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE CLINTON COUNTY AG IN THE CLASSROOM PROGRAM!

Registration opens Oct. 1

Registration opens Nov. 1

Registration opens Jan. 1

\$50 for members
\$60 non-members

\$50 for members
\$60 non-members

\$50 for members
\$60 non-members



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2026

FARMING FOR THE NEXT GENERATION
ILLINOIS FARM BUREAU ANNUAL MEETING

SAVE THE DATE
DECEMBER 12-15, 2026

Hyatt Regency, Chicago, Illinois



— 2026 —

DAIRY TECH TOUR

HENRICHS DAIRY

THURSDAY, JULY 16
STARTS AT 10:00 AM





Young Leaders award Safety Grants



The Clinton County Farm Bureau Young Leader Committee has awarded two additional 2026 Equipment Grants to the St. Rose and Hoffman Fire Departments to help strengthen emergency response capabilities in rural Clinton County. The St. Rose Fire Department used its grant to purchase a STIHL backpack blower, which will assist firefighters in combating brush fires in areas that are inaccessible to fire trucks. The Hoffman Fire Department used its grant funding to purchase a multi-gas meter and a thermal imaging camera. The multi-gas meter will help detect multiple hazardous gases simultaneously, making it a valuable tool during grain bin rescue operations. The thermal imaging camera detects heat emitted by objects and converts it into a visible image, helping firefighters quickly locate hot spots and improve visibility during emergency responses.

The Equipment Grant Program assists local fire departments in purchasing agriculture-related emergency response equipment. With agriculture at the heart of Clinton County, the program helps ensure rural emergency responders are equipped to handle the unique emergencies they may encounter on farms. A total of \$2,950 in grant funding will be awarded through the 2026 Equipment Grant Program. This year's funding includes an \$800 Farm Safety Grant provided by the Illinois Farm Bureau and COUNTRY Financial in support of rural emergency preparedness.



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.

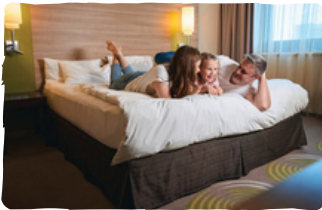
Viewing the farm's new freestyle barn and learning how it works within the operation will also be a highlight for attendees.

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.



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