



CLINTON COUNTY FARM BUREAU NEWS

February 2026

2026 SOIL SUMMIT

As part of Clinton County Farm Bureau's (CFB) 2026 Nutrient Stewardship Grant project, we are excited to welcome Ray Archuleta back to Clinton County for our 2026 Soil Summit on Thursday, March 5th, at the St. Rose Development Club.

Archuleta is an internationally recognized agronomist, educator, and leading voice in the soil health movement. He last visited Clinton County in 2018 and has since been featured in the Kiss the Ground and Common Ground documentaries highlighting regenerative agriculture. With more than 30 years of experience working with farmers and conservation

professionals, Ray is known for translating complex soil science into practical, field-ready strategies. After retiring from NRCS in 2017, he founded Understanding Ag, LLC and the Soil Health Academy to teach Biomimicry strategies and Agroecology principles for improving soil function on a national scale.

At the Soil Summit, Ray will challenge attendees to rethink traditional soil management by focusing on soil biology, structure, and function. He will share real-world examples demonstrating how practices such as reducing disturbance, keeping soil covered, increasing plant diversity, and maintaining living roots can

improve water infiltration, nutrient cycling, and long-term farm sustainability. Whether you are just beginning your soil health journey or looking to refine your current practices, Ray's insights will leave you inspired, informed, and equipped to build healthier soils, increase yield, and

reduce costly inputs for the long term.

Join us for an informative Soil Summit beginning with a catered meal from Popeye's Chophouse from 6-7 p.m., followed by Ray's presentation at 7:00 p.m. and a Q&A session. Eligible producers can also be entered into a

drawing to subsidize 40-acres of cover crop seed to get them started on their own regenerative journey for Fall 2026.

Registration is required by Wednesday, February 25th. For more information, contact the Clinton CFB office or visit www.clintoncofb.org.

2026 SOIL SUMMIT

Featuring Ray Archuleta, one of the nation's most respected regenerative agriculture advocates

This session will explore soil health principles, profitability, and how farmers can transition to regenerative systems.

MARCH 5, 2026
CATERED DINNER FROM POPEYE'S CHOP HOUSE 6 - 7 P.M. • PRESENTATION @ 7 P.M.

ST. ROSE DEVELOPMENT CLUB

WWW.CLINTONCOFB.ORG

FOR MORE INFORMATION



Funded in part through a 2026 IFB Nutrient Stewardship Grant

Ray Archuleta

FEATURED SPEAKER



2026 "COMMUNITY IMPACT GRANTS" AVAILABLE

The Clinton County Farm Bureau (CFB) has again committed at least \$5,000 to support community improvement projects through its 2026 Community Impact Grant program. Applications are available online and must be submitted by April 30th.

The program supports projects that strengthen Clinton County communities and encourages partnerships among local organizations.

Eligible applicants include schools, civic groups, churches, 4-H clubs, FFA chapters, and other community organizations. Funding may be used for projects such as facility or playground improvements, equipment for youth and school organizations, and other initiatives with lasting community impact.

Interest in the program continues to grow!

In 2025, Clinton CFB received 13 applications requesting more than \$28,000. To date, the Clinton CFB has awarded \$27,270.65 in funding to support 28 community projects.

For more information or to apply, contact the Clinton CFB office or visit www.clintoncofb.org by April 30th.

FOUNDATION AWARDS \$8,139 IN CLASSROOM GRANTS

The Clinton County Farm Bureau (CFB) Foundation recently awarded \$8,139 in classroom grants to support agricultural education in local schools.

This year, twenty-seven (27) Clinton County teachers applied for grants of up to \$350 to fund classroom supplies, educational resources, and agricultural field trips. The Foundation Board approved all applications, helping teachers enhance students' understanding of agriculture and

its role in everyday life. Grant funds will support a wide range of needs, including books, consumable supplies, hands-on activities, and field experiences.

The Foundation Board congratulates this year's grant recipients and thanks Clinton CFB members for their continued support. To date, the Foundation has awarded more than \$100,000 in classroom grants to Clinton County teachers.



Chakota Therapeutic Riding Center was awarded \$2,000 for barn and stall repairs in 2025.



Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Ferrin was awarded \$1,400 in 2025 for playground equipment repairs to replace panels and platforms in need of replacement.

Congratulations!
2025-2026
CLASSROOM GRANT RECIPIENTS

<u>Germantown Elementary</u> Cheri Markwell Rose Wilken	<u>Carlyle Grade School</u> Emma Schanz Kasey Hanson Jenny Gansauer Michelle Edwards Susan Howard Patti Timmermann Nancy Nave Laura Hollenkamp Jamie Alexander	<u>Aviston Elementary</u> Shelly Albers Karen Braundmeier Sarah O'Brien
<u>New Baden Elementary</u> Deb Becker Andrea Junge Hannah Boulanger	<u>Carlyle Junior High</u> Jessica Hogg	<u>Dist. 12</u> Susie Hintz Christina Luebbers Patty Sander
<u>Trinity Lutheran School</u> Angie Redeker Sara Kuper	<u>Carlyle High School</u> Jennifer Morence	<u>Wesclin Elementary</u> Angie Schlimme
		<u>Mater Dei</u> Mark Huelskamp

Thank you to the members of Clinton County Farm Bureau for supporting our charitable Foundation.
Your generosity makes these grants possible.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

The Clinton County Farm Bureau (CFB) Foundation began accepting 2026 scholarship applications from member families on January 1st. The number and dollar amount of scholarships awarded vary each year based on applications received and available funds. In 2025 (for example), the Foundation awarded \$29,000 to 19 students, with individual scholarships ranging from \$750 to \$3,000.

Detailed eligibility requirements and a link to the online application will be available at www.clintoncofb.org. All applications and supporting materials must be submitted online by midnight on March 15, 2026. Applicants will also participate in an interview with the Scholarship Review Committee, scheduled through the online application process.

To date, the Clinton CFB Foundation has awarded more than 565 agriculture-related scholarships totaling over \$526,300, an additional \$42,000 in veterinary scholarships, and more than \$100,000 in classroom grants. As a 501(c)(3) charity, donations to support these local efforts may be tax-deductible under IRS guidelines.



Clinton County Farm Bureau Foundation Scholarship Applications are DUE MARCH 15!

Scan the QR code or visit our website for more information and online application.

SCAN ME!



Ag Mechanic Students Apply for a chance to be awarded a scholarship for your education

We're here to help you grow!

This scholarship opportunity is focused on aspiring ag mechanics looking to advance their studies or achieve a certification.



To learn more about our scholarship opportunities, and the online application, please visit our website: www.clintoncofb.org