

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

July| 2024



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www.prophetstown.org



a Message from the Executive Director



Lee Goudy
Executive Director

Farms one hundred years ago in America were still very dependent on horses. That meant, year-round constant, relentless labor. But a transition was looming on the horizon. During 1914 – 1918 food production was at an all-time high due to World War I. In the 1920s, those demands began to change and most farmers had to begin looking for ways to increase production while reducing costs.

It was a time of improved engineering of engine powered equipment, education of crop rotation, and new innovations in agriculture were starting to lead the way of a new revolution of farming across America.

When you visit The Farm at Prophetstown you will be immersed in this agricultural transformation. Enjoy exploring our museum homes, see heritage breed farm animals, and view heirloom gardens and apple orchard. Our summer events include an antique tractor and power show, homesteading arts, even a vintage baseball game and barn dance that would have provided entertainment to those of the time. Our events and programs depict the 1920s life on The Farm but also provide a basic agriculture knowledge that can be taken home and used today. We hope to see you soon at The Farm at Prophetstown.

find us on



ILLIANA ANTIQUE TRACTOR SHOW

The Illiana Antique Power Association brought truckloads of antique tractors and hit and miss engines for a big show at the Farm! Guests stepped back in time to see how farm technology has changed through history. Live music by the Bum Ditty Barn Dance band played from 12-1:30, food was for sale, and many enjoyed our hayrides!

We collected \$5 a car for parking and the proceeds from parking was split with Illiana.



FARM TO TABLE DINNERS

Our next Farm to Table Dinner is on July 19th, with chef Rusty Hetsko, and it is almost fully booked! An exciting update: Rusty has just joined the Farm at Prophetstown as our full time Team Leader, and he will continue to be one of our featured chefs! More dinner dates to come this summer!

FRESH BEEF AND PORK- MEMBERS' SALE FOR JULY & AUGUST

For the entire month of July and August, we will have a special discount for all Farm Members of 10% off of beef. Please let a staff member know as you check out!



WINDMILL RESTORATION

For many years the windmill at the Farm was out of operation, but now, thanks to the support of generous organizations in our community, it is operational again, and as a new feature, it is pumping water! Soon, the project will be completed with new signage and some beautiful landscaping. We'd like to thank Duke Energy, Lafayette Community Foundation, Krintz Lawn Care and Landscaping, and Miller Windmill Service for everything they've done to make this project possible. A ceremony is currently being planned and the date will be shared soon!



UPCOMING EVENTS

FAMILY GARDEN PARTY - JULY 13TH

Join us for a family friendly lunch on The Farm. We will serve a buffet style lunch around the garden that will feature farm beef and pork, and fresh produce. Enjoy live music by the Bum Ditty Barn Dance band as you eat lunch! Picnic tables will be provided. Cost is \$15 for adults, \$7 kids 4-12 and children 3 and under eat FREE. Reservations required. Park admission not included. Rain location: the Gibson Farmhouse 11:30am-1:00pm.

USEFUL PLAY- TOYS FOR LITTLE WOMEN - JULY 13TH

Late 19th century and early 20th century toys for children often imitated the activities of mothers and fathers. Girls learned practical skills of housekeeping by playing with toy stoves, sewing machines, and washing machines. Explore history and see examples of toys for little women in the tenant house. FREE with park admission. 11:00am-2:00pm

CONCERT AND BARN DANCE - JULY 20TH

Join us for live music by the Bum Ditty Barn Dance Band and square dance with the Lafayette Fun Squares. Then enjoy live music by Scott Greenson and Vickie Maris. Food and drinks will be available for purchase as a fundraiser for the Farm. FREE with park admission. 5:30pm-8:30pm.

HOMESTEADERS' WEEKEND - JULY 27TH AND 28TH

The Farm at Prophetstown is the perfect setting to learn about homesteading arts and small farm animal care; after all, that's how things were done on a 1920s Farm. Join us Saturday and Sunday for classes related to homesteading. Topics will include: beekeeping, making dairy products, raising chickens, growing heirloom apples, canning, raising pigs, raising beef cattle and more. On both days we will have food available for purchase so you won't need to leave the park. Entry is FREE with park admission; a few classes have a small fee. Classes will be spread out from 10:00am-5:00pm each day. See our Facebook, website, or call us for full detailed class schedule.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL - AUGUST 3RD

This frozen treat was very popular in the 1920s! Join us for homemade ice cream and a buffet of toppings! At 1:00pm we will start games and relay races for all who would like to participate! FREE with park admission. 12:00pm-2:00pm.

A DAY IN THE LIFE - AUGUST 17TH

Join our staff and volunteers as they demonstrate some typical chores and practices of 1920s families. Experience what it was like to prepare food, create an attractive table setting, care for animals, wash laundry, and help us cook on our antique wood stove! FREE with park admission. 1:00pm-3:30pm.

SQUARE DANCING IN THE BARN - AUGUST 24TH

A local square-dancing group, the Lafayette Fun Squares, will be on the Farm sharing the joys of square dancing. They will be demonstrating and teaching some dances! So don't forget to wear your dancing shoes when you join us for this fun, interactive program. FREE with park admission. 1:00pm-2:30pm.

WELCOME TO NEW STAFF



MADIA (SUNSHINE) BICKETT

MARKETING, EVENTS & EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

I joined The Farm in June of 2024 and came from Purdue University where I worked for the last 12 years in various marketing communication roles, with my last role as a Program Manager for C-SPAN. I am a PENN state graduate with a degree in Communication. I've lived Stockwell, IN for the past 5 years.

I grew up in a small rural IL town and moved to Indiana in 1999. I have loved learning all the farm animals and greeting all the visitors to the farm. In my free time, I enjoy camping, traveling, music and running the Stockwell Farmers Market.

I hope to bring "Sunshine" to the farm daily!



RUSTY HETSKO

FARM TEAM LEAD

I born and raised in Delphi, Indiana; and am self-taught chef and handyman with 25 years of experience in Indianapolis and surrounding areas as well as sunny Walton County Beach in Florida.

Outside of work, I enjoy cooking from-scratch, cooking with a Mediterranean influence, engineering, travelling, tent camping and nature. On the Farm, I enjoy soaking up the amazing views, smells and sounds and spending quality time with the amazing farm animals, as well as the fantastic crew.