



# Fall 2018 Newsletter

*Dedicated to educating the public and preserving the rural heritage of Illinois.*

The Cool Days of Fall bring the harvest and an excellent time to visit the Museum. You are cordially invited. The following are a few of the recent happenings at the Museum.



**Students examine a piece of fluoride that is a part of the mining display**

Over 300 students from area schools explored the Museum and learned about their heritage. As two little boys walked in the door, one said, "I have been here before and it is really a cool place." The students had a full morning; they were then guests of the American Thresherman Association at their Fall Show across the street. They watched apple butter and apple cider being made, juice squeezed out of sorghum to be cooked, corn shelled, ropes being made and a ride in a stagecoach or wagon at the show.



**Students are learning about the Civil War Era and burials**

**Please Join Us  
6<sup>th</sup> Annual Old Fashioned Christmas  
Pictures with Santa**

December 2 from 1:00 pm to 4 pm

**Rep. Mike Bost provided an update on the Farm Bill and Tariffs** on August 24. A large group of farmers, FFA students from Pinckneyville High School and their adviser, Mr. McAllister, plus local business people were present for a question and answer period with the Congressman.

Rep. Bost was especially supportive of the FFA group, having been an FFA member himself. He is one of only a few members of the US Congress who have worn the blue.



**Congressman Bost and FFA Students**



**Irl Engelhardt, Mike Bost, & Charlie Greer**

**Thank you to our summer intern, Kyla Epplin.** Kyla is currently a High School Senior and she holds the office of President of the FFA Organization. She plans to pursue an agriculture degree at Murray State.



**800 attend Quilt and Toy Tractor Show in August.**

The event provides an opportunity for quilters to exhibit their artwork, and brings in a large number of toy tractors and implements.

**Congratulations Austin**

McAllister, a Shadow Board Member and High School Ag Instructor, received the Section 24 Excellence in Teach Award in June at the Illinois Association of Vocational Agriculture Teachers. Outstanding work Austin!



**Your Ideas Are Requested for A New Mining Exhibit**



**Charlie Demonstrates Operating a Dragline**

We request your ideas and display items for the coal mining exhibit that is under development. We currently have two dragline simulators donated to the Museum by SIU. They were used to train miners from all over the world.

Illinois was one of the largest coal producers in the nation at in the 1970's & 80's. Some of the world's largest draglines and shovels were located nearby. The surface mines and underground mines were important sources of family income and shaped many rural communities throughout the state. They helped improve the standard of living and educated many families.

If you have memorabilia that you would like to see in the exhibit or have ideas for the exhibit please contact us at [irhmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:irhmuseum@gmail.com). Surface or underground items would be usefull.

**Thank You**

To the individuals and companies that have helped the Museum progress to where it is today. Their names are shown on the donor wall of the Museum.

**2018**

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