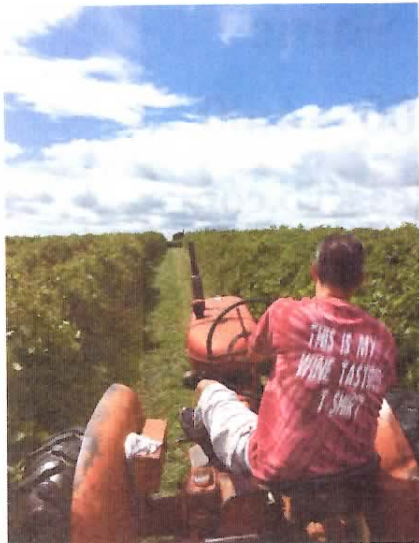


## Lawfer's Willow Valley Dairy Farm



Willow Valley Dairy Farm is a third generation farm owned by Ron, Julie, and John Lawfer. The dairy serves as home to 180 dairy cows including Holsteins, Jersey, Brown Swiss, and Ayshire breeds. The animals are housed in a fabric covered free stall barn that allows for plenty of sunlight and ventilation. The Lawfer's farm sits on 600 acres where they grow a variety of crops including oats, rye, and alfalfa to feed the animals. They believe in conservation farming and utilize many farming methods that minimize disturbance of the soil that improves the health of the crop ground.

Milking robots perfected over the last few years are making their way onto mid-sized and larger dairy farms across the Midwest. Cows enter a stall next to a robot arm controlled by pneumatics or hydraulics. A neck transponder on the cow tells the machine the cow's ID and tracks the stats. When she feels the urge, be it 6 a.m. or midnight, she can come back to be milked again. The feed for the cows is pushed toward them by the use of a robotic feeder process.



## Thoren Farm

Greg and Janis have been farming for 42 years. Precision farming techniques are used to fertilize, apply pesticides, plant and harvest the crops of corn, soybeans, wheat, rye, and forages that are grown on the Thoren farm. They use no-till planting and cover crops extensively to reduce wind and water erosion and improve soil health. To utilize the rough ground they pasture beef cow/calf pairs using rotational grazing along with pasture improvement practices.



## Massbach Winery

Since growing up on her family's rural Illinois dairy farm, Peggy Harmston has always been inspired by the land. It called her out of the office and into the fields to cultivate a dream. Peggy and her husband, Greg, had a vision that the beautiful ridges of Massbach in the forgotten hills of Jo Daviess County could grow bountiful grape vines unexpected for Illinois.

The first vines were planted in 2000 and the winery was established in 2003. Being a constant student of the wine industry, Peggy enjoys experimenting with new styles and grape varieties to create a flavor that you will never forget. The tasting room started with only a half dozen wines and now boasts more than 15 diverse styles to sample.

## Directions

**Lawfer's Willow Valley Dairy Farm**  
4389 S. Willow Rd, Kent, IL

Drive East on Route 20 out of Stockton, Illinois for 3 miles. Turn right onto S. Willow Rd. Proceed South to Blackhawk Rd. Turn left on Blackhawk Rd and enter the property from Blackhawk Rd.

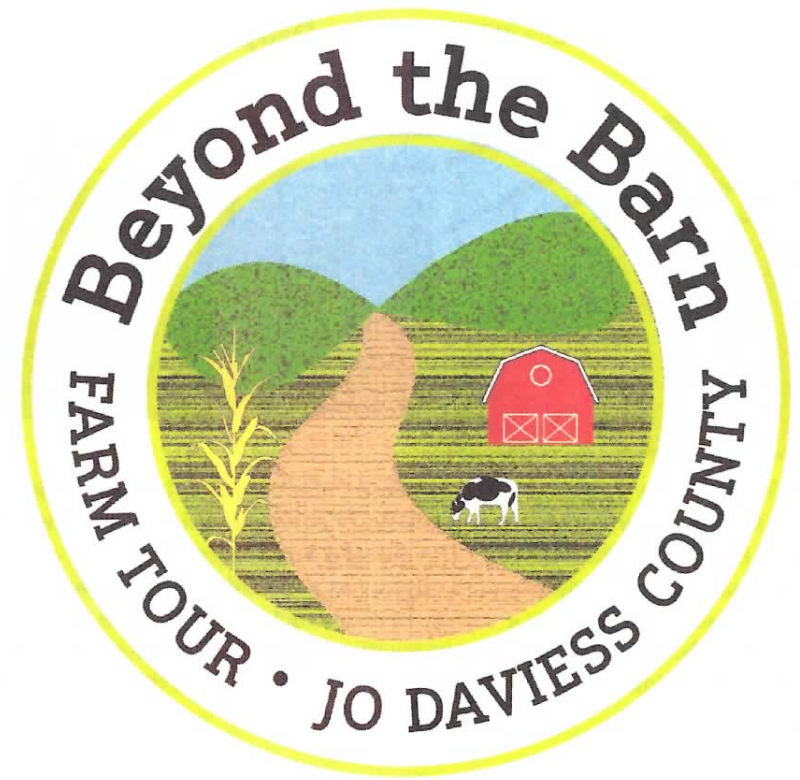
**Thoren Farm**  
5650 S. Ridge Rd, Stockton, IL

From Route 20 in downtown Stockton, Illinois turn onto Rte 78 South (Main Street) and follow 78 South for 4 miles. Continue straight onto S. Ridge Rd. for .07 mile. The farm area will be located on the left side of the road.

**Massbach Winery:**  
8837 S. Massbach Rd, Elizabeth, IL

From Stockton—  
Turn South onto Rte 78 at the intersection of Rte 20 and Rte 78 S (N. Main St) in Stockton Illinois for 1.6 miles. Turn right onto E. Center Rd for 1.6 miles. Turn left onto S. Massbach Rd. for 1.0 miles. Turn right and stay on S. Massbach Rd. for 7.5 miles.

From Elizabeth—  
Head East on Rte 20 for 2 miles out of town. Turn right onto S. Derinda Rd for 5.2 miles. Turn left onto E. Bethel Rd for 5.2 miles. Turn right onto S. Massbach Rd for 3.0 miles



## Farm Tour Guidebook

**Saturday, June 17, 2017**  
**Rain or Shine**

**Time: 10:00 – 4:00**

**[www.jodaviesscfb.com](http://www.jodaviesscfb.com)**

**#beyondthebarn**

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**#enjoygalenactry**

**#enjoyillinois**

Sorry, No pets allowed