



THE TUSCOLA HIGH SCHOOL Class of 1962 held their 60th class reunion at the home of Ken and Judy Wright Landeck on Saturday, June 18. Front row, left to right: Janice Stoner Cunningham, Mary Ruby Knight, Katie Hood Dewey, Jane Rothgeb Hackett, Jane Hinkle Dallas; Second row: Barb Lecher Utterback, Libby Keigley Fox, Judy Wright Landeck, Carolyn Leitz Hilligoss, Jan Charnetzki Allison-Seed, Donna Beard Dean. Third row: Dick Bean, David Wilson, John Campbell, Ron Stabler, Warren Thompson, Claude Benner. Not shown: Ron Waugh. Submitted photo.

STAR releases 2021 annual report with big impacts for voluntary conservation efforts

Champaign, IL - Saving Tomorrow's Agriculture Resources (STAR) has concluded its third year of reporting conservation efforts around the state of Illinois through the Crop Year 2021 STAR Annual Report. The report features a summary of conservation efforts, environmental impacts, and growth of the STAR initiative.

The 2021 growing season saw above average growing temperatures with below average rainfall throughout the state. "Farmers are making tremendous strides in protecting land and nutrients as input prices and availability stay in flux," says Megan Dwyer, Director of Conservation and Nutrient Stewardship with Illinois Corn Growers Association. "The STAR tool brings farmers

an opportunity to measure their practice efforts and develop plans for next season."

Coming out of a virtual year, the STAR team sought face-to-face engagement with farmers to discuss improvement plans, explore opportunities for conservation, and develop partnerships with other programs. STAR visited with over 1,900 individuals through conferences, field days, and trade shows.

For the 2021 crop year, 472 participants utilized the STAR tool on 85,579 acres over 1,579 fields. In Illinois, 69 Soil & Water Conservation Districts locally administered the program, providing one-on-one technical assistance to farmers and landowners interested in improving their STAR Rating. Additionally, Colorado Depart-

ment of Agriculture and the Conservation Districts of Iowa implemented Colorado STAR and Iowa STAR, respectively, for the first time in 2021.

Report Highlights:

- The use of no-till and strip-till by IL STAR farmers accounted for 47,752 tons of sediment kept out of Illinois waterways, 14,159 pounds of phosphorus kept in the field, and provided climate benefits equal to 27,276 Tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions kept out of the atmosphere for one year.

- The use of cover crops by STAR farmers accounted for 25,940 tons of sediment kept out of Illinois waterways, 78,182 pounds of nitrate-nitrogen and 5,903 pounds of phosphorus kept in the field, and provided climate benefits

equal to removing the greenhouse gas emissions from 11,666 Tonnes from the road for one year.

To read the full report and learn more about the practices supported by STAR, visit <https://bit.ly/STARAnnualReport>. On July 1, the 2022 field form will be available through the STAR Web App at www.starfreemove.com or through a Soil & Water Conservation District near you.

Illinois Master Naturalist program accepting applications for training

University of Illinois Extension, serving Coles-Cumberland-Douglas-Moultrie-Shelby Counties will be offering Illinois Master Naturalist training from Aug. 10-Oct. 11 with the majority of classes every Tuesday from 5:30-8:30 p.m. held at Douglas-Hart Nature Center in Mattoon. There will also be classes onsite at Warbler Ridge Woods and Shelbyville Visitor's Center.

The mission of the University of Illinois Extension Master Naturalist Program is to provide science-based educational opportunities that connect people with nature and help them become engaged environmental stewards. "The Master Naturalist training is a great way to learn more about our local natural areas, get together with people who are interested in helping our environment, and make some great connections," says Extension Program Coordinator Jenny Lee.

The program educates and trains adult volunteers so they are better equipped to share natural resource information with others in their communities and to assist with environmental conservation and restoration activities. We all have a responsibility to protect the natural resources in the places we live to ensure our world is "fit for the future."

For those wanting to become a Master Naturalist volunteer, the University of Illinois requires each applicant to complete an application, background screening paper-

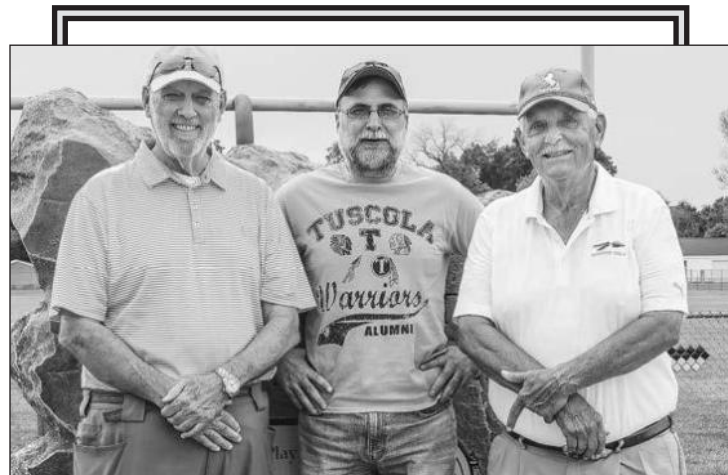
work, and schedule an interview with Master Gardener and Master Naturalist Coordinator, Jenny Lee. There is a fee to participate which covers classroom sessions, field training, handouts, and the Master Naturalist manual. Financial assistance is available.

Upon completion of the Master Naturalist training, graduates will become Master Naturalist Interns and have 2 years to complete 60 volunteer service hours to become an Active Master Naturalist. To continue as an Active Master Naturalist, volunteers must fulfill 30 volunteer hours and 10

continuing education hours annually. There are many great opportunities available throughout the year to reach these hours.

Applications, screening paperwork, interviews, and course fee must be received and completed by July 25, 2022. If you have any questions, please contact Jenny Lee at 217-345-7034.

If you will need an accommodation in order to participate, please email uie-ccdm@illinois.edu. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time to meet your access needs.



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<p>16" Thin Crust Family Pleaser® with 1 Topping Additional toppings may be purchased.</p> <p>\$23</p> <p>Includes: Family Garden Salad and Soft Drinks</p> <p><small>Dine-In, Carry-Out & Delivery. Coupon Required. Limit 3. Online code: 161fp. Must show coupon. Restrictions may apply. Not valid with other coupons or offers. Toppings exclude extra cheese. Delivery charges may apply. Available at participating Monical's Pizza® locations. Valid 5/30/2022 - 6/26/2022.</small></p>	<p>16" Thin Crust or 14" Pan Pizza with 1 Topping Additional toppings may be purchased.</p> <p>\$17</p> <p><small>Dine-In, Carry-Out & Delivery. Coupon Required. Limit 2. Online code: 161top. Must show coupon. Restrictions may apply. Not valid with other coupons or offers. Toppings exclude extra cheese. Delivery charges may apply. Available at participating Monical's Pizza® locations. Valid 5/30/2022 - 6/26/2022.</small></p>
<p>Two 14" Thin Crust Pizzas with 1 Topping each Must buy in multiples of two. Limit 2 Offers. Additional toppings may be purchased. Upgrade to a 16" for an additional charge.</p> <p>\$28</p> <p><small>Dine-In, Carry-Out & Delivery. No Coupon Required. Limit 2. Online code: 142pie. Must mention offer. Restrictions may apply. Not valid with other coupons or offers. Toppings exclude extra cheese. Delivery charges may apply. Available at participating Monical's Pizza® locations. Valid 5/30/2022 - 6/26/2022.</small></p>	<p>8" 1 Topping Thin Crust or Pan Individual Pleaser Additional toppings may be purchased. Includes: Individual Garden Salad and Large Soft Drink (Delivery available with \$10 minimum purchase)</p> <p>\$9</p> <p><small>Dine-In, Carry-Out & Delivery. Coupon Required. Online code: 8pleaser. Must show coupon. Restrictions may apply. Not valid with other coupons or offers. Toppings exclude extra cheese. Delivery charges may apply. Available at participating Monical's Pizza® locations. Valid 5/30/2022 - 6/26/2022.</small></p>

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LAND AUCTION

Tues., July 12, 2022 • 10:00 a.m.

131.06 Acres Offered in 2 Tracts
Land Location: 2550 CR 950 E, Lovington, IL 61937
Section 3, Township 15N, Range 5E
Approximately 4 Miles North of Lovington

AUCTION LOCATION:
PENN STATION, 122 EAST PROGRESS, ARTHUR, IL

Sellers: Willard & Mary Diener

AUCTION TERMS: 10 percent down payment on the day of auction with the balance due at closing on or before October 15, 2022. Auction subject to sellers' approval. Representing attorney Robert E. Kosic 217-268-3609. For more information on this opportunity contact John Miller: 217-543-2883.

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