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**NEWS RELEASE: August 4, 2016**  
**Driftless Farm & Food Fest showcases Farm-to-School Initiatives**

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual [Driftless Farm & Food Fest](#) invites the community to explore local farms, learn about the future of farming, and connect with resources to expand local foods education in the tri-state area, which is part of the Driftless region. Three days of inspiring and educational events – organized by [Dubuque County ISU Extension & Outreach](#), [Four Mounds Foundation](#), and [Dubuque Rescue Mission](#) with [Dubuque Community School District](#) and [Clarke University](#) include:

- Free Back to School Lecture (8/25/16)
- Free Driftless Farm Crawl (9/10/16)
- Ticketed Farm to Table Dinner, served at the Historic Four Mounds Estate (9/11/16)

This celebration of healthy local food and the farmers that produce it connects eaters and growers, young and old. “So many people today are disconnected from the source of their food. This event inspires people, by demystifying food production and connecting families to responsible farmers and resources to teach the next generation about the relationship between healthy soil and healthy food” – Carolyn Scherf, Local Food Coordinator, Dubuque County ISU Extension & Outreach.

The festival is sponsored by Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area, Sustainable Dubuque, Clarke University and Farm Credit Services of America. More information on all of the events can be found at [DriftlessFarmCrawl.com](http://DriftlessFarmCrawl.com)

**Event #1: Thursday August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016 | Clarke University – Jansen Music Hall 6PFOOD FOR A CHANGING PLANET: DISCUSSION WITH FRED KIRSCHENMANN**

Clarke University is pleased to present the Driftless Farm & Food Fest Kick-off event, a Back-to-School Lecture with Fred Kirschenmann, world renown writer and philosopher and longtime leader in sustainable agriculture, for a timely and crucial conversation about the future of food in a changing climate. Mr. Kirschenmann is a distinguished fellow at the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture and President at Stone Barn Center for Food & Agriculture. With opening remarks by Mayor Roy Buol, and Clarke University faculty members from the departments of **Food Science** and **Environmental Studies** – this event will provoke critical conversations about agriculture in the context of climate change.

**Event # 2: Sat. September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016 | 6 sites in Dubuque & Southwest WI 12:30-4:30PM**

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## DRIFTLESS FARM CRAWL: CELEBRATING FARM-TO-SCHOOL

*Featuring Farm & Food Destinations in Dubuque, Sinsinawa, Cuba City, Belmont & Potosi, WI  
FREE & Open to all!*

“Shake the hand that feeds you!” The Driftless Farm Crawl provides an opportunity for families and educators in the tri-state area to get a first-hand look at where their food comes from through a self-guided tour of 6 rural and urban farm and food destinations. Free food, farm tours, and hands-on kids’ activities are featured. See how schools, farms, and community groups are bringing fresh healthy food to the community in Southwest Wisconsin and Dubuque. *Of note for educators*, Dubuque Community Schools, Western Dubuque Schools, NICC and others will showcase Farm-to-School initiatives at the Alternative Learning Center farm school location during the crawl. For a full listing of Farm Crawl Sites & Farmers visit [www.driftlessfarmcrawl.com](http://www.driftlessfarmcrawl.com)

**Event # 3: Sun. September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 | Four Mounds Estate 4PM**

### **DRIFTLESS FARM-TO-TABLE DINNER – Ticketed Event**

Enjoy an incredible local dinner overlooking the Mississippi River and support local foods education in Dubuque at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Driftless Farm to Table Dinner. A four-course meal prepared by local chefs using the season’s best local ingredients. This year’s chefs include Ryan Boughton with Blaze Farm to Table Events, Kevin Scharpf at Brazen Open Kitchen, Miles Breed with Clarke University and Emily and Nick Puls of East Mill Bakeshop & Catering. This family style meal is not only an unforgettable culinary experience, but also a phenomenal way to support community food education & programming throughout the year at Four Mounds, Dubuque County ISU Extension & Outreach, and Dubuque Rescue Mission. Seating is limited. For more information on this year’s featured chefs, contact Local Food Coordinator Carolyn Scherf at [cscherf@iastate.edu](mailto:cscherf@iastate.edu). For more about dinner, visit [www.driftlessfarmcrawl.com](http://www.driftlessfarmcrawl.com) or visit the [EventBrite](#) site for tickets.

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Extension and Outreach

 FOUR MOUNDS 

    
Dubuque Rescue Mission