



Senator
Bill Stouffer

DISTRICT 21

Senator Bill Stouffer – Cultivating Rural Missouri.

[Website](#) | [Contact Me](#) | [Newsroom](#)

The Stouffer Report: American Icons Pick Rural Missouri to Be Their New Home

I have had the pleasure of telling you about some great industries and companies moving into and expanding in rural Missouri, and now there is another giant coming into our area.

A couple of years ago, [Anheuser-Busch](#) bought some ground along Highway 98, near Overton. Since then, they have been pretty quiet about why they bought the land, although word of mouth traveled fast. Right before Thanksgiving, the folks at A-B showed off their new farm, which is now home to 100 of the infamous Clydesdale horses. Officials say they chose the area because of the amount of space needed and because it is relatively close to their St. Louis home. The horses were brought in from a California breeding farm in October. The 350 acre farm will house around 150 Clydesdales. Right now, they have 100 of the horses.

Currently, Anheuser-Busch has four employees at the farm to oversee operations and take care of the horses. Down the road, they may utilize [University of Missouri](#) veterinary students to help with treatment and allow them to hold classes at the farm. There is a shortage of kids interested in getting into large animal [veterinary](#) work, so this may be a catalyst to add to the number of young people who get involved in this kind of work. Otherwise, the farm will not be open to the public. This is due to the needed conditions there, including necessary privacy. The farm features 34 box stalls for the horses during winter, 10 pastures, and 15 miles of fence that is specially treated so it flexes and cuts back on any injuries to a horse that butts up against it.

This is not your typical horse breeding farm. A-B [Clydesdales](#) have to be bred to a certain weight and height. The horses must weigh over 2,000 pounds, be six feet tall at the shoulder, have a black tail and

mane, a certain amount of white on their faces and legs, and be bay in color. The amount of work that goes into breeding and training these magnificent horses is just phenomenal.

Clydesdales becoming part of Anheuser-Busch is an interesting story. When Prohibition was ended in 1933, August Busch, Jr., bought the horses to use for pulling a wagon that carried the first cases of beer to political leaders, including New York City's mayor and President Franklin Roosevelt. Busch had spent part of his youth working in the stables and loved horses. Folks then started sending letters to A-B's headquarters, asking to see more of the horses. Since then, they have become an icon of the brewer.

I am happy to see the addition of the horse farm in our area and glad the new owners of an American company want to continue to keep doing business here. The fact they had a lot of choices for their location and picked Cooper County, to me, says a lot about rural Missouri and the fine folks who live, work, and raise their families here.

Senator Stouffer serves the counties of Carroll, Chariton, Cooper, Howard, Lafayette, Macon, Ray, Saline, and a part of Clay.

If you have questions or comments about this or any other issue, please call toll free (866) 768-3987 or by e-mail at bstouffer@senate.mo.gov.

Contact Information

Capitol Office State Capitol Room 332 Jefferson City, MO 65101	Website: http://www.senate.mo.gov/stouffer	Phone Number: 573.751.1507
	Toll-Free Phone Number: 866.768.3987	Fax: 573.751.9764

[Click here](#) to unsubscribe.

Serving Carroll, Chariton, Cooper, Howard, Lafayette, Macon, Ray, Saline, and Parts of Clay.