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Polk County Fair Queen & King and their court

The 2015 Polk County Fair Queen and King are Allison Vincent and A. J. Gill, two very involved 4-H members. Vincent enjoys showing meat goats and submitting Food & Nutrition projects at the Polk County Fair. Gill's county fair projects include Home Improvement, Food & Nutrition and showing rabbits.

The Queen and King Courts are also

active members who exhibit projects in the 4-H Building and livestock barns. Candidates interviewed with judges in June and learned the results at the annual Polk County Fair Board Barbecue on Wednesday, July 22 in the 4-H Building at the Iowa State Fairgrounds.

The Queen, King and Court members handed out ribbons at livestock shows, Share the Fun talent show, the Fashion Show and the Communication Event Awards.

Congratulations to everyone who participated!

Farm Bureau launching new website

The Iowa Farm Bureau is launching a new website the weekend of July 31. The primary goal of the website is to improve and simplify access to web content. One way we're doing this is by allowing members to log into the website with an email address (instead of a user name) and password, in order to access members-only content such as Spokesman or Exchange Ads as well as member account information.

This is a common practice used on websites today to simplify and streamline access, while protecting valuable information. Therefore, the membership system will no longer allow two individuals to share the same email address. On July 29, Iowa Farm Bureau will be removing duplicate email addresses from the membership database. If you have a shared email address, you would have received an email from Farm Bureau on July 13 asking you to update your account. If you have any further questions, please contact Jan in the Ankeny office at 515-964-5354.

Member appreciation event to be held

Polk County Farm Bureau members are invited to attend the annual member appreciation event to be held at the FFA Enrichment Center, 1055 SW Prairie Trail Parkway in Ankeny on Thursday, Sept. 10. Those attending can



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enjoy a meal of two meats (beef & pork) with cheesy potatoes, green beans, dessert and drink.

Our keynote speaker will be Jamie Pollard, Iowa State University Athletic Director. Pollard has been the Athletic Director at Iowa State University for eight years, many of the visions that Jamie Pollard outlined at the time of hiring have come true. The Cyclone athletics brand is stronger than it's ever been. Here are several additional highlights:

- With completion of the Cyclone Sports complex and the Bergstrom Football Facility, the department has invested more than \$100 million in new construction and renovations under Pollard's guidance.
- Established season attendance records in its five major sports;
- Built a stable financial base - eliminating dependence on state funding - by reaching record-breaking fundraising and ticket sales marks;
- Assembled, arguable, the strongest coaching staff in ISU history.

A former national champion long distance runner at UW-Oshkosh (where he is in the schools athletics Hall of Fame), Pollard channeled his competitive drive into an athletics administration career. Prior to arrival at ISU he served in various athletic administrative capacities at the University of Wisconsin, the University of Maryland and Saint Louis University.

He received a 2003 Street & Smith's Sports business Journal "Top Forty Under 40" award, the first collect administrator honored. Pollard served as chair of the Big 12 Athletics Directors committee and first Vice-President of the Division 1A Athletics Directors Association.

Jamie and his wife, Ellen, have four children. The family's local philanthropic efforts have benefitted Blank Children's Hospital, Variety Children's Charity and United Way of Central Iowa.

Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. The program will begin at 6:45 p.m. A short business meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. and door prizes will be at 7:15 p.m.

Reservations are required by August 28, 2015. Please call 515-964-5354 for your reservations to this membership appreciation dinner.

This event is sponsored by Polk County Farm Bureau.

Young Farmer Tailgate & ISU Football

Young Farmers from Districts 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, & 9 are invited to tailgate and attend the Iowa State vs. UNI game on Saturday, September 5th. The ISU tailgate begins at 2:00 pm, beverages will be available. At 4:00 pm Hy-Vee will cater and kickoff is at 7:00 pm.

You can reserve your tickets by contacting the Hancock County Farm Bureau: (641) 923-2616 or Brenda.Adams@ifbf.org starting August 7th. There are a limited number of tickets, so they will be reserved on a first come, first



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serve basis. Tickets will be free for Farm Bureau members, and you can pick up your tickets on game day at the tailgate area.

The event is hosted by:

Aaron and Laura Cunningham, Ryan and Mindy Miller,
Grant and Brianne Streck, Jacob and Mindy Handsaker,
Chasen and Justine Stevenson, Phillip and Leanne Kading

The event is sponsored by Farm Bureau and LG Seeds.



Moeckly to attend President's conference

The 2015-2016 County Presidents Conference is scheduled for Aug. 21-22 in West Des Moines. This year's theme is "Tools to Lead and Influence." The conference will include speakers, Secretary of Ag Bill Northey and Center for Food Integrity Charlie Amot.

Northey will lay the groundwork for the conference and Amot will give the presidents information on what works when talking about agriculture. Attendees will meet the Iowa Farm Bureau staff and state board members. This conference is full of good information and a great opportunity to network with fellow county presidents. Polk County Farm Bureau president Brad Moeckly will be attending.

PCEFB board retreat well attended

Polk County Farm Bureau board members and spouses attended the board retreat to the Quad Cities the weekend of July 17-18. Our first stop was to visit the John Deere Harvester Works where they manufactures combines and associated headers. It was a very interesting tour in the factory even if it was very hot inside and outside. Do you know why John Deere chose Green and Yellow for their colors on all their equipment?

What color are the crops that are raised in the United States? Answer is: Green & Yellow.

After the tour, we went to the John Deere Pavilion and Gift shop to visit. Here is a little information about the John Deere





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Pavilion: It's what we've been doing at John Deere for more than 175 years. And there's no better way to experience it than a trip to the John Deere Pavilion. It's all here. The machines. The history. The technology. The innovations. A chance to see where agriculture, construction and forestry are heading, here in America and around the world. It's fun. It's educational. And best yet, it's FREE. Our Machines. "Awesome" in every sense of the word. The Pavilion has lots of awe-inspiring machines to explore - huge machines, including a tractor, a dozer, a combine, and others. A Higher Purpose -- Right now, seven billion people share this planet. And by 2050, there will be another two billion joining us. Learn about our never-ending mission to help feed, clothe, and shelter a rapidly growing world. This exhibit will definitely surprise you. We like to keep things fresh and surprising at the John Deere Pavilion so we've developed a series of rotating exhibits that will keep you coming back. From the Pavilion we visited the John Deere Store has just about everything for all fans, young and old. Clothing, toys, collectibles, videos, books ... you name it, chances are they have it. After the factory tour, visiting the Pavilion and John Deere Store we went to our hotel and then out to eat for supper. On Saturday, we had breakfast and a short board meeting and then we boarded the chartered bus to go back to Moline, Illinois to take a river cruise up the Mississippi River on the Celebration Belle River Cruise for our noon lunch trip. The excursion took us to some of the historical signs of the Quad City area. Some of the sights we saw were the Rock Island Arsenal, located on a 946 acre island and Lock & Dam #15, the largest roller dam in the world. After the river cruise we boarded our chartered bus and headed back to Ankeny. Everyone attending the Polk County Farm Bureau board retreat had a great time!

Students recognized by Governor Branstad for Academic Excellence

Students from around the state were recognized for outstanding academic achievement at the Thirteenth Annual governor's Scholar Recognition Ceremony on April 26 at Hy-Vee Hall in Des Moines.

The statewide program, sponsored by the Iowa Governor's Office, Iowa High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) and its title sponsor the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation (IFBF), honored 436 high school seniors from across Iowa.

"Iowa Farm Bureau members believe that by investing in our youth and communities, we're investing in the future of Iowa," said IFBF President Craig Hill. "We are so proud to honor such exceptional students and proud to be a leading contributor to educational programs and annual scholarships for our youth."



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Each high school was invited to select their senior student or students with the highest academic ranking. Based on grade point average for their first seven semesters. Students selected for the award also had the opportunity to recognize their favorite/most influential teacher and will receive a photo plaque of their meeting with Governor Branstad.

"The principles learned through academic success, like those learned from participation in education-based activities, help develop outstanding leaders and citizens." said IHSAA Executive Director Alan Beste. "The partnership between the IHSAA and the Iowa Farm Bureau, along with the great cooperation of the governor's Office has made this prestigious event possible for many years."

Ninety-eight percent of those recognized also participate in extra-curricular school activities, with more than 80 percent participating in at least one interscholastic sport. Nearly 60 percent of the group plan to continue their education in Iowa.

Emily Knuth, a student at Bondurant-Farrar; Evan Haugh, a student at Des Moines Roosevelt; Shuda Jarboe & John Krone, both students at Johnston High School; and Satya Yaramati, a student at Valley High School in West Des Moines were all honored at the event.

Campaign Manager enjoys trip to Washington

By Brad Moeckly from Polk County Farm Bureau (Use his with this story)
If I had to sum up this year's Membership Campaign Managers Trip in one word it would be diversity - from the diverse geology to the diverse agriculture in the state of Washington.



We started our trip in Spokane, a scenic city with waterfalls and tall pine trees. Spokane was started on the lumber industry and later thrived on ore mining, making it a banking and trade center.

The next day we traveled south about 50 miles to where the pine trees stop and the Palouse area begins. The Palouse are giant soil dunes developed from wind-blown dust creating deep top soils on 50 degree slopes. Crops grown here are wheat, barley, peas and lentils. We met up with Steve and Pete, apple farmers in this area. Steve was a former Washington State FB president and AFBF vice president. We traveled up Steptoe Butte for a panoramic view of the Palouse region.

As we headed south and west the Palouse ended and the scab lands began; this region is void of all top soil and is carved with deep channels from ancient glacial floods. Cattle are the only agriculture in this arid sparse land. As we continued traveling southwest



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toward Richland suddenly the land flattened and a multitude of crops became visible as we entered the Columbia River Basin. After a night stay in Richland, we toured a mint and spearmint farm and viewed a multitude of crops that thrive with the irrigation provided by the Columbia River and the Grand Coulee Dam, where water is plentiful.

Although water is not an issue for them right now the endangered species act and foreign trade are big issues for them, as well as migrant worker laws.

Once again I would like to thank all Polk County Farm Bureau agents, board members and volunteers for their efforts on another successful membership campaign, and a special thanks to the Washington State Farm Bureau and Franklin County Washington Farm Bureau for the hospitality and genuine kindness shown to us.

Board members will be attending District 5 meeting

Polk County Farm Bureau board members will be attending the District 5 Pre-Summer Policy Conference meeting held by District 5 Director Mark Buskohl on Thursday, August 27th at the Hansen Learning Center at Iowa State University in Ames. The main item on the agenda will be the discussion of the proposed 2015 resolutions.

Attending from Polk County Farm Bureau will be President Brad Moeckly and spouse Joyce; Vice President Cris Friedrichson; and Voting Delegate Steve Lee.

Members can enter to win Ford F-150

Iowa Farm Bureau members now have a chance to win a 24-month lease of an all-new 2015 Ford F-150 truck through a “2015 Built Tough F-150” sweepstakes being offered by Ford Motor Company, an exclusive member benefit partner of the Iowa Farm Bureau.

To register for a chance to win, members can visit <http://www.fordspecialoffer.com/farmbureau/sweeps> now through Oct. 30. Eligible members must be current Iowa Farm Bureau members, be at least 21 years old and have a valid driver’s license. “This is a real win-win for Iowa Farm Bureau members who are already eligible for exclusive \$500 savings on the purchase or lease of most new Ford vehicles through a partnership with Ford Motor Company,” says Evelyn George, IFBF marketing coordinator. “Since we first partnered with Ford back in 2011, we’ve helped members save more than \$5 million on their new vehicles. Members care about programs and services that offer value, and we’re pleased to provide additional value through this sweepstakes.”

To learn more about the Ford sweepstakes or other benefits exclusive to IFBF members, visit www.iowafarmbureau.com or call the toll-free member helpline at 866-598-3693.



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Summer Policy Conference scheduled



The 2015 Summer Policy Conference will be held on September 1-2 at the Iowa Farm Bureau office in West Des Moines. Steve Lee, as voting delegate will be representing Polk County Farm Bureau. If he is not able to attend, Brad Moeckly, president, would be the first alternate and Cris Friedrichson, as vice president would be second alternate. Credentials will be sent for this official session. The resolutions from our 2015 opinionnaire will be presented at this conference.

National Ag in the Classroom Conference

In June, Gretchen Voga, program director for Polk County Farm Bureau Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC), attended the National AITC conference in Louisville, Kentucky. The conference lasted three days and included many informative and interactive sessions led by teachers and AITC professionals from around the country. Topics for these sessions ranged from urban school



gardening to incorporating agriculture literature into the classroom to even centering an entire school year around agriculture. These provided many new resources, ideas, technologies, and lessons for the Polk County Farm Bureau AITC program to use in their programming for area schools. Keynote speaker and noted author Peggy Thomas also showcased her new children's book, Thomas Jefferson Grows a Nation, a historical look at Jefferson's role as farmer and founder of our country. Gretchen is looking forward to using what she learned from the conference in new programming this fall. To schedule a visit from Polk County AITC or to hear what we have to offer for your classroom, community event, or youth group, please contact Gretchen at 515-460-8683 or gvoga@ifbf.org.

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Timothy Drabek, a student at Grand View Christian; Devon Veach, a student at Iowa Christian Academy; Annemarie McCormick, a student at North Polk in Alleman; Justin Roepsch, a student at Saydel; and Jacey Huinker, a student at Southeast Polk were all honored at the event.

Sign-up open for IFBF South Africa tour

The Iowa Farm Bureau Federation (IFBF) is offering its members an exclusive opportunity to participate in an intensive market study tour of South Africa, March 13-24, 2016. The market study tour will visit several sites in South Africa, exploring various agricultural and cultural sites in a country relatively unknown to most Iowans, but a growing player in international agriculture.

Participants for the upcoming South Africa market study trip will be selected based on potential leadership participation in Farm Bureau and other agricultural organizations, communications skills and a willingness to "give back" to communities through oral and written presentations. The tour is exclusive to IFBF members who apply and are selected.



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Applications must be submitted by Sept. 30, 2015. You can obtain an application by visiting www.iowafarmbureau.com and clicking on the South Africa Market Study Tour hotbox, emailing Dave Miller at damiller@ifbf.org or calling Lavonne Baldwin at 515-225-5633.

Farm animal facts just for fun

- * Pigs and light-colored horses are the only two mammals besides humans that can get sunburned.
- * In truth, "to sweat like a pig," would mean that you do not sweat at all. Pigs have no sweat glands.
- * The average horse eats seven times its own weight in food each year.
- * If a female horse and a male donkey mate, the offspring is known as a mule. If a male horse and a female donkey mate, the offspring is known as a hinny. Both mules and hinnies are usually sterile.
- * Cows are color blind. Bulls charge a matador's cape simply because it is moving, not because it is red.
- * There are more cows in the United States than there are people. New Zealand has more sheep than people. They have 70 million sheep but only 40 million people.
- * Cows produce about 30 percent of the methane in the atmosphere.
- * Twelve or more cows are known as a fink.
- * A donkey's eyes are placed so that it is able to see all four of its feet no matter which way it looks.
- * More people are killed annually by donkeys, on average, than die in plane crashes.
- * The term "chicken pox" comes from the Old English term "gican pox," which referred to an itching pox, not because people believed the illness was caused by chickens.
- * Chickens and turkeys are capable of crossbreeding. When they do, they produce offspring that are known as turkins.
- * Equinophobia is the fear of horses.
- * Alektorophobia is the fear of chickens.
- * Taurophobia is the fear of bulls.
- * There is no official term for the fear of cows or pigs.

Purchase discount state fair tickets online

Iowa State Fair goers have the option to purchase advance discounted tickets now through Wednesday, Aug. 12, at \$8 for adults (ages 12 and older) and \$4 for children (age 6-11) through Iowa State Fair's online ticket system. Members can order tickets at www.iowastatefair.org. Click on the "Buy Tickets" window on the homepage.



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