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POLK COUNTY FARM BUREAU

Website Updates for Polk County Farm Bureau for June, 2016

Important Dates:

Tuesday, June 14

Polk County Farm Bureau Policy Development Committee meeting at the county office starting at 5:15 p.m.

Polk County Farm Bureau board of directors meeting at the county office starting with supper at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, June 28

District 5 PAC Training at the Hansen Learning Center in Ames starting with supper at 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, July 12

Polk County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting at the county office starting at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 25

District 5 Presidents Conference at the Vets College at Iowa State University in Ames.

Tuesday, September 6

Polk County Farm Bureau Member Appreciation Event at the FFA Enrichment Center in Ankeny.

Polk County Farm Bureau Ag Enhancement Scholarships Awarded

We are very pleased to announce recipients of the 2016 Polk County Farm Bureau Ag Enhancement Scholarships.

Sarah Hubbard, Abraham Lincoln High School graduate and daughter of Richard & Rebecca Anders of Des Moines. Sarah will attend Iowa State University with a career choice of Animal Science.

Cory Hunt, Abraham Lincoln High School graduate and son of Stacie Gering of Des Moines. Cory will attend Iowa State University with a career choice of Agri-Business.

Gabriella Baker, North Polk High School graduate and daughter of Cameron & Andrea Baker of Elkhart. Gabriella will attend Iowa State University with a career choice of Animal Ecology.

Reece Franzen, North Polk High School graduate and son of Randy & Stacey Franzen of Polk City. Reece will attend Des Moines Area Community College in Ankeny with a career choice of Agronomy.

Austin Knight, Southeast Polk High School graduate and son of Jeff & Alicia Knight of Runnells. Austin will attend Iowa State University with a career choice of Agronomy.

Jordan Travis, Southeast Polk High School graduate and daughter of Sean & Darcy Travis of Altoona. Jordan will attend Iowa State University with a career choice of Animal Science.

Eliason McNees, Urbandale High School graduate and son of Julie McNees of Urbandale. Eliason will attend Iowa State University with a career choice of Ag Business.

Congratulations to each of you and the best of luck in your future endeavors.



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Polk County Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom -- Las Vegas students to virtually tour two Iowa Farms

Three Kindergarten Classes Connect with Iowa Farmers through Google Hangouts.

On Thursday, May 26, 2016 three Las Vegas kindergarten classrooms will virtually tour two central Iowa farms through the Polk County Farm Bureau program Farm Chat at 3:15 – 3:45 p.m. The kindergarteners come from an inner city school with ninety percent of the student population qualifying for free or reduced school lunch. Most of the students have never been outside Las Vegas city limits and even fewer have visited a farm. Using Google Hangouts, the students will be able to interact with the farmers during the tour, ask questions, and help guide the experience.

They visited two locations at Anderson Farms and Red Granite Farm near Boone, Iowa.

The Polk County Farm Bureau board believes strongly in educating the public about the importance and relevance of agriculture. They place a special emphasis on educating youth. As the general public becomes further removed from the farm, children do not have a basic understanding of the origins of their food, fiber, and other agricultural products. Farm Chat allows students to discover where food is grown, experience farm life, and ask farmers questions in real time without the logistics and cost of leaving their classroom. This program is rapidly expanding with endless touring possibilities.

To learn more visit http://www.polkcountyfarmbureau.com/ag_classroom.html, <https://www.facebook.com/PolkCountyAITC/>, or call us at 515-460-8683.

June is National Dairy Month

June is National Dairy Month and a great time to thank all the dairy farmers for their hard work and dedication to the industry. Did you know that Iowa is home to 1,684 dairy farms and is ranked fourth in the nation for ice cream production? Keeping dairy farmers on the land and active in our communities is an important component for a strong and prosperous Iowa. Iowa's dairy industry contributes \$4.9 billion to the state's economy each year.

Take time during the month of June to visit the Iowa State Dairy Association website at www.iowadairy.org to learn more interesting Iowa dairy facts. To help celebrate National Dairy Month with your family, try this delicious strawberry smoothie recipe.

Strawberry smoothie

Ingredients

- * 2 cups fresh sliced strawberries
- * 1 cup fat-free milk
- * 1/3 cup low-fat plain yogurt
- * 2 tsp honey
- * 1/2 tsp vanilla extract

Freeze strawberries in a single layer on a plate. After strawberries have frozen, blend all ingredients until smooth. Makes two tall glasses.



Summer break for Spokesman coming up

The summer break for the Spokesman is quickly approaching! There will be no county pages or exchange ads in the June 29 and July 6 editions.

The regular county pages and exchange ads will appear as normal beginning with the July 13 edition. For more information, please contact PCFB at jan.whaley@ifbf.org.

Board of directors write resolutions

Polk County Farm Bureau board of directors will review the results of the 2016 opinionnaire that members submitted at the end of March through early April at their board meeting on Tuesday, June 14, 2016. The survey was mailed to members and the county had a very good response this year to the survey. There were issues at the local, state and national level addressed on the 2016 opinionnaire. The annual survey is part of the grassroots policy development process of the Farm Bureau organization. Members were encouraged to participate and have their voice be heard. The directors will write resolutions for Polk County Farm Bureau based on the results and will forward them on to the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation for consideration at the state level.