

June/July 2019



The Dairy Center Connection

NEWS FROM THE NORTHEAST IOWA DAIRY FOUNDATION



Hi, there!

Now that the craze of Breakfast on the Farm has wrapped up, I can take a moment to really reflect on the event. This year we celebrated our 10th anniversary. Although I've only been in my position for three of those ten years, I can say with confidence that each year is a learning experience. The first Breakfast on the Farm held in 2010 attracted just over 300 people. With the help and support of the community, we have been able to reach a record breaking attendance of over 1,600 people in 2019. The event isn't just about the numbers served through the breakfast line, but it's about the impact we make by connecting consumers to agriculture. Based on our survey data, here's what Breakfast on the Farm guests think about dairy farming:

- **97%** of visitors left with a very positive/positive opinion on the way modern dairy farmers protect the environment.
- **99%** of visitors left with a very positive/positive opinion on the way dairy farmers take care of dairy cattle.
- **99%** of visitors left with a very positive/positive opinion of modern dairy farms.

Thank you to all who have contributed to ten successful years of Breakfast on the Farm. Together, we look forward to many more years of connecting farmers and consumers.

Mariah Schmitt
Coordinator, Northeast Iowa Dairy Foundation



What's Happening at Iowa's Dairy Center

Record Attendance at 10th Annual Breakfast on the Farm

The Northeast Iowa Dairy Foundation hosted the 10th Annual Breakfast on the Farm on Saturday, June 22 at Iowa's Dairy Center. Over 1,600 attendees enjoyed a wholesome breakfast and fun on the farm! There were plenty of activities to keep families busy throughout the morning including guided tram tours of the farm, hand milking a cow, petting zoo, inflatables, scavenger hunt, educational exhibits and more. Thank you to the volunteers and community supporters for making this year's Breakfast on the Farm possible. Save the date for next year's Breakfast on the Farm: June 27, 2020! [View photos.](#)

Children Learn the Importance of Agricultural Safety

The National Education Center for Agricultural Safety hosted a summer Progressive Agriculture Safety Day at Iowa's Dairy Center on June 18. The 72 participants attended sessions about electricity safety, hand tool safety, animal safety, water safety, railroad safety, and machinery safety. [View photos.](#)

It's Construction Season

We all know summer is a popular time for road construction, but that's not the only kind of construction happening. Starting this month, crews will be at Iowa's Dairy Center to reconstruct the parking lot. Please be alert and follow directional signage on where to park while visiting. The project will be substantially completed in time for fall classes.



NICC News

Wisconsin's FFA 'Star' is a NICC Student

Northeast Iowa Community College (NICC) Dairy Science Technology student Collin Wille of Rice Lake, Wis. was named the Star Farmer at the 2019 Wisconsin State FFA Convention. The Star Farmer award goes to a student who owns and operates an enterprise in production agriculture. Collin's program is based on his family's dairy farm, where he has headquartered a growing herd of his own. [Read more.](#)

NICC Student Chosen for Agriculture Scholarship from Targeting Excellence

Bailey Smirnov of Goodhue, Minn. was awarded a scholarship from Targeting Excellence, an organization that provides scholarships for students committed to food animal agriculture. Bailey, an NICC Dairy Science Technology student, earned the scholarship to further her education at the college. This non-profit organization provides \$1,000-\$3,000 scholarships to students identified as future leaders in agriculture.

Students Completing Summer Internships

Though they aren't in the classroom this summer, NICC Dairy Science Technology students are still taking advantage of learning opportunities through internships. Students can be found all over the Midwest completing their internships on dairy farms, at veterinary clinics and other agriculture companies. Check out the NICC Dairy Science Club [Facebook page](#) to for internship features throughout the summer.



Dairy Profile: Nathan Adams

After graduating from NICC's Dairy Science program, Nathan Adams started farming with his family near Waucoma. Today, the Adams family milks 300 cows with four DeLaval robots. Nathan was recently named the Outstanding Young Holstein Breeder and was featured on page 7 of the Iowa Holstein Herald. [Read more.](#)

Industry News

Midwest Dairy and Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin announce second annual Dairy Experience Forum. [Read more.](#)

Financial Impairment on the Farm webinar offered July 30. [Read more.](#)

Planning for Profitability program for farmers and agribusinesses to be held. [Read more.](#)

Farmland leasing arrangements meetings will be held in July and August. [Read more.](#)

Dairy pasture walk to feature Northeast Iowa grazing farm. [Read more.](#)

Decorah Newspapers captures hand milking at Breakfast on the Farm. [Read more.](#)

Houston County American Dairy Association sends area youth to learn the importance of farming. [Read more \(subscription required\).](#)

Calendar of Events

Visit our [website](#) to see all upcoming events and continuing education courses.

Dairy Foundation Operations/Exec Committee Meetings

July 26 | 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. | Iowa's Dairy Center

NICC Fall Semester Begins

Aug. 22



Northeast Iowa Dairy Foundation
1527 Hwy. 150 S., Calmar, Iowa