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Form **990-EZ**Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service**Short Form**
Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code

(except black lung benefit trust or private foundation)

▶ Sponsoring organizations of donor advised funds, organizations that operate one or more hospital facilities, and certain controlling organizations as defined in section 512(b)(13) must file Form 990. All other organizations with gross receipts less than \$200,000 and total assets less than \$500,000 at the end of the year may use this form.

▶ The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements.

OMB No 1545-1150

2012Open to Public
Inspection**A For the 2012 calendar year, or tax year beginning****and ending****B Check if applicable**

- ☐ Address change
- ☐ Name change
- ☐ Initial return
- ☐ Terminated
- ☐ Amended return
- ☐ Application pending

C Name of organization**JEFFERSON COUNTY FARMERS AND NEIGHBORS, INC.**

Number and street (or P.O. box, if mail is not delivered to street address)

P.O. BOX 811

Room/suite

City or town, state or country, and ZIP + 4

FAIRFIELD, IA 52556**D Employer identification number****14-1926280****E Telephone number****641-209-6600****F Group Exemption**

Number ▶

G Accounting Method: ☒ Cash ☐ Accrual Other (specify) ▶**I Website:** ▶ **WWW.JFANIOWA.ORG****H Check** ☐ if the organization is not

required to attach Schedule B

(Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).

J Tax-exempt status (check only one) — ☒ 501(c)(3) ☐ 501(c) () ◀ (insert no.) ☐ 4947(a)(1) or ☐ 527

K Check ☐ if the organization is not a section 509(a)(3) supporting organization or a section 527 organization and its gross receipts are normally not more than \$50,000. A Form 990-EZ or Form 990 return is not required though Form 990-N (e-postcard) may be required (see instructions). But if the organization chooses to file a return, be sure to file a complete return.

L Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b, to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets (Part II,

line 25, column (B) below) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ

▶ \$ **44,717.****Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances** (see the instructions for Part I)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I

☒

Revenue	1	Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received	1	42,808.
	2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts	2	
	3	Membership dues and assessments	3	
	4	Investment income	4	29.
	5a	Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory	5a	
	5b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses	5b	
	5c	Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a)	5c	
	6	Gaming and fundraising events		
	a	Gross income from gaming (attach Schedule G if greater than \$15,000)	6a	
	b	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ of contributions from fundraising events reported on line 1) (attach Schedule G if the sum of such gross income and contributions exceeds \$15,000)	6b	
c	Less: direct expenses from gaming and fundraising events	6c		
d	Net income or (loss) from gaming and fundraising events (add lines 6a and 6b and subtract line 6c)	6d		
7a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	7a		
b	Less: cost of goods sold	7b		
c	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a)	7c		
8	Other revenue (describe in Schedule O)	8	1,880.	
9	Total revenue. Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6d, 7c, and 8	9	44,717.	
Expenses	10	Grants and similar amounts paid (list in Schedule O)	10	
	11	Benefits paid to or for members	11	
	12	Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits	12	
	13	Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors	13	28,439.
	14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance	14	460.
	15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping	15	9,360.
	16	Other expenses (describe in Schedule O)	16	6,651.
	17	Total expenses. Add lines 10 through 16	17	44,910.
Net Assets	18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9)	18	<193.>
	19	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	19	16,992.
	20	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	20	0.
	21	Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 18 through 20	21	16,799.

LHA For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.

Form **990-EZ** (2012)

Part II Balance Sheets (see the instructions for Part II)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part II ☐

	(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year
22 Cash, sayings, and investments	16,992.	22	16,799.
23 Land and buildings		23	
24 Other assets (describe in Schedule O)		24	
25 Total assets	16,992.	25	16,799.
26 Total liabilities (describe in Schedule O)	0.	26	0.
27 Net assets or fund balances (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21)	16,992.	27	16,799.

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments (see the instructions for Part III)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part III ☒

What is the organization's primary exempt purpose? **SEE SCHEDULE O**

Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, and other relevant information for each program title

Expenses
(Required for section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) trusts; optional for others.)

28 EDUCATION OF GENERAL PUBLIC OF HEALTH, QUALITY OF LIFE, AND OTHER ISSUES RELATED TO CONFINED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATIONS. (Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	28a	36,875.
29 PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO PLAINTIFFS IN POSSIBLE NUISANCE LITIGATION WITH CONFINED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATIONS. (Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	29a	
30 (Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	30a	
31 Other program services (describe in Schedule O) (Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	31a	
32 Total program service expenses (add lines 28a through 31a)	32	36,875.

Part IV List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees

List each one even if not compensated (see the instructions for Part IV)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part IV ☒

(a) Name and title	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC) (if not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
CHRIS BUSCH DIRECTOR	0.50	0.	0.	0.
ROBERT SWANSON SECRETARY	0.50	0.	0.	0.
JIM RUBIS PRESIDENT	1.50	0.	0.	0.
JONATHAN RUDNEY DIRECTOR	0.50	0.	0.	0.
DIANE ROSENBERG VP, TREASURER & EXEC DIREC	10.00	19,000.	0.	0.
RICH SIMS DIRECTOR	0.50	0.	0.	0.
ALAN MARKS DIRECTOR	0.50	0.	0.	0.
DAVID SYKES DIRECTOR	1.00	0.	0.	0.
FRANCIS THICKE DIRECTOR	1.25	0.	0.	0.
JOHN IKERD DIRECTOR	0.75	0.	0.	0.

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Form 990-EZ (2012)

NEIGHBORS, INC.

14-1926280

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Part V**Other Information** (Note the Schedule A and personal benefit contract statement requirements in the instructions for Part V) Check if the organization used Sch. O to respond to any question in this Part V ☒

- 33** Did the organization engage in any significant activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," provide a detailed description of each activity in Schedule O
- 34** Were any significant changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the amended documents if they reflect a change to the organization's name. Otherwise, explain the change on Schedule O (see instructions)
- 35a** Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year from business activities (such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a, among others)?
- b** If "Yes," to line 35a, has the organization filed a Form 990-T for the year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O
- c** Was the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III
- 36** Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year? If "Yes," complete applicable parts of Schedule N
- 37a** Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions **37a** 0.
- b** Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year? **37b**
- 38a** Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the tax year covered by this return?
- b** If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved **38b** N/A
- 39** Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter:
- a** Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9 **39a** N/A
- b** Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities **39b** N/A
- 40a** Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under section 4911 **0.**; section 4912 **0.**; section 4955 **0.**
- b** Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year, or did it engage in an excess benefit transaction in a prior year that has not been reported on any of its prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I **40b**
- c** Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958 **0.**
- d** Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization **0.**
- e** All organizations. At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? If "Yes," complete Form 8886-T **40e**
- 41** List the states with which a copy of this return is filed **NONE**
- 42a** The organization's books are in care of **FAIRFIELD ACCOUNTING SERVICES** Telephone no. **641-472-6655**
Located at **504 NORTH 4TH ST., STE. 302, FAIRFIELD, IA** ZIP + 4 **52556**
- b** At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)? **42b**
- If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: **See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for Form TD F 90-22.1, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts**
- c** At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside of the U.S.? **42c**
- If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: **43**
- 43** Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041 - Check here and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year **43** N/A

Yes No

33		X
34		X
35a		X
35b	N/A	
35c		X
36		X
37a		
37b		X
38a		X
38b	N/A	
39a	N/A	
39b	N/A	
40a		
40b		X
40c		
40d		
40e		X

Yes No

42b		X
42c		X

Yes No

44a		X
44b		X
44c		X
44d		
45a		X
45b		X

JEFFERSON COUNTY FARMERS AND
NEIGHBORS, INC.

14-1926280

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- 46 Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office?
If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I

	Yes	No
46		X

Part VI Section 501(c)(3) organizations only

All section 501(c)(3) organizations must answer questions 47-49b and 52, and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI ☐

- 47 Did the organization engage in lobbying activities or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Sch. C, Part II
- 48 Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E
- 49a Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization?
b If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization?
- 50 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

	Yes	No
47		X
48		X
49a		X
49b		

(a) Name and title of each employee paid more than \$100,000	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
NONE				

f Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000 ▶

- 51 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None." **NONE**

(a) Name and address of each independent contractor paid more than \$100,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation

d Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000 ▶

- 52 Did the organization complete Schedule A? **Note:** All section 501(c)(3) organizations and 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must attach a completed Schedule A

☒ Yes ☐ No

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign
Here

Signature of officer

DIANE ROSENBERG, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Type or print name and title

11-6-13
DatePaid
Preparer
Use Only

Print/Type preparer's name

Preparer's signature

Date

Check ☐ if
self-employed

PTIN

TELFORD A. LODDEN

Telford A. Loden

11/6/13

P00075132

Firm's name ▶ BROOKS LODDEN, P.C.

Firm's EIN ▶ 42-1229486

Firm's address ▶ 1441 29TH STREET, STE. 305
WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266-1357

Phone no. 515/223-7300

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions

☒ Yes ☐ No

Form 990-EZ (2012)

Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part III. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2008	(b) 2009	(c) 2010	(d) 2011	(e) 2012	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any "unusual grants.")						
2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
4 Total. Add lines 1 through 3						
5 The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f)						
6 Public support. Subtract line 5 from line 4						

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2008	(b) 2009	(c) 2010	(d) 2011	(e) 2012	(f) Total
7 Amounts from line 4						
8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
10 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV.)						
11 Total support. Add lines 7 through 10						
12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc. (see instructions)					12	
13 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here <input type="checkbox"/>						

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

14 Public support percentage for 2012 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f))	14	%
15 Public support percentage from 2011 Schedule A, Part II, line 14	15	%
16a 33 1/3% support test - 2012. If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input type="checkbox"/>		
b 33 1/3% support test - 2011. If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input type="checkbox"/>		
17a 10% -facts-and-circumstances test - 2012. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input type="checkbox"/>		
b 10% -facts-and-circumstances test - 2011. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input type="checkbox"/>		
18 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions <input type="checkbox"/>		

Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ) 2012

JEFFERSON COUNTY FARMERS AND

Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ) 2012 **NEIGHBORS, INC.**

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Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 9 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part II. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part II.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2008	(b) 2009	(c) 2010	(d) 2011	(e) 2012	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any "unusual grants.")	75.	93,395.	160,956.	106,477.	42,808.	403,711.
2 Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose						
3 Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513						
4 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
5 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
6 Total. Add lines 1 through 5	75.	93,395.	160,956.	106,477.	42,808.	403,711.
7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons		88,500.	121,010.	71,852.		281,362.
b Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of \$5,000 or 1% of the amount on line 13 for the year						0.
c Add lines 7a and 7b		88,500.	121,010.	71,852.		281,362.
8 Public support. (Subtract line 7c from line 6)						122,349.

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2008	(b) 2009	(c) 2010	(d) 2011	(e) 2012	(f) Total
9 Amounts from line 6	75.	93,395.	160,956.	106,477.	42,808.	403,711.
10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources	1,066.	63.	10.	23.	29.	1,191.
b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975						
c Add lines 10a and 10b	1,066.	63.	10.	23.	29.	1,191.
11 Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
12 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV.)						
13 Total support. (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12)	1,141.	93,458.	160,966.	106,500.	42,837.	404,902.
14 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here ► <input type="checkbox"/>						

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

15 Public support percentage for 2012 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	15	30.22 %
16 Public support percentage from 2011 Schedule A, Part III, line 15	16	23.05 %

Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage

17 Investment income percentage for 2012 (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	17	.29 %
18 Investment income percentage from 2011 Schedule A, Part III, line 17	18	.37 %

19a 33 1/3% support tests - 2012. If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and **stop here**. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ► ☐**b 33 1/3% support tests - 2011.** If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and **stop here**. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ► ☐**20 Private foundation.** If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a, or 19b, check this box and see instructions ► ☒

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.
▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

OMB No 1545-0047

2012

Open to Public
Inspection

Name of the organization	JEFFERSON COUNTY FARMERS AND NEIGHBORS, INC.	Employer identification number 14-1926280
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FORM 990-EZ, PART I, LINE 4, OTHER INVESTMENT INCOME:

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:	AMOUNT:
INTEREST INCOME	29.

FORM 990-EZ, PART I, LINE 8, OTHER REVENUE:

DESCRIPTION OF OTHER REVENUE:	AMOUNT:
SPONSORSHIP INCOME	1,880.

FORM 990-EZ, PART I, LINE 10, GRANTS AND ALLOCATIONS:

FORM 990-EZ, PART I, LINE 16, OTHER EXPENSES:

DESCRIPTION OF OTHER EXPENSES:	AMOUNT:
ADVERTISING	2,810.
INSURANCE	1,793.
OFFICE EXPENSE	724.
EDUCATION	195.
SPONSORSHIP, TRAVEL & ENTERTAINMENT	395.
BANK SERVICE CHARGES	11.
CREDIT CARD PROCESSING FEES	477.
TELEPHONE	132.
MISCELLANEOUS	114.
TOTAL TO FORM 990-EZ, LINE 16	6,651.

**FORM 990-EZ, PART III, PRIMARY EXEMPT PURPOSE - EDUCATION AND PROMOTION OF
ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS OF HEALTH, QUALITY OF LIFE, AND OTHER ISSUES
RELATED TO CONFINED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATIONS.**

LHA For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990 or 990-EZ.

Schedule O (Form 990 or 990-EZ) (2012)

232211
01-04-13

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.
▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2012

Open to Public
Inspection

Name of the organization	JEFFERSON COUNTY FARMERS AND NEIGHBORS, INC.	Employer identification number 14-1926280
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FORM 990-EZ, PART IV, COMPENSATION STATEMENT:

PERSON NAME: DIANE ROSENBERG

COMPENSATION EXPLANATION: INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR PAYMENTS REPORTED ON FORM
990-EZ, PART I, LINE 13.

FORM 990-EZ, PART V, INFORMATION REGARDING PERSONAL BENEFIT CONTRACTS:

THE ORGANIZATION DID NOT, DURING THE YEAR, RECEIVE ANY FUNDS, DIRECTLY,
OR INDIRECTLY, TO PAY PREMIUMS ON A PERSONAL BENEFIT CONTRACT.

THE ORGANIZATION, DID NOT, DURING THE YEAR, PAY ANY PREMIUMS, DIRECTLY,
OR INDIRECTLY, ON A PERSONAL BENEFIT CONTRACT.

Application for Extension of Time To File an Exempt Organization Return

OMB No. 1545-1709

► **File a separate application for each return.**

- If you are filing for an **Automatic 3-Month Extension**, complete only **Part I** and check this box ☒
- If you are filing for an **Additional (Not Automatic) 3-Month Extension**, complete only **Part II** (on page 2 of this form)

Do not complete Part II unless you have already been granted an automatic 3-month extension on a previously filed Form 8868

Electronic filing (e-file). You can electronically file Form 8868 if you need a 3-month automatic extension of time to file (6 months for a corporation required to file Form 990-T), or an additional (not automatic) 3-month extension of time. You can electronically file Form 8868 to request an extension of time to file any of the forms listed in Part I or Part II with the exception of Form 8870, Information Return for Transfers Associated With Certain Personal Benefit Contracts, which must be sent to the IRS in paper format (see instructions). For more details on the electronic filing of this form, visit www.irs.gov/efile and click on *e-file for Charities & Nonprofits*.

Part I Automatic 3-Month Extension of Time. Only submit original (no copies needed).

A corporation required to file Form 990-T and requesting an automatic 6-month extension - check this box and complete

Part I only

All other corporations (including 1120-C filers), partnerships, REMICs, and trusts must use Form 7004 to request an extension of time to file income tax returns

Type or print File by the due date for filing your return. See instructions.	Name of exempt organization or other filer, see instructions. JEFFERSON COUNTY FARMERS AND NEIGHBORS, INC.	Employer identification number (EIN) or 14-1926280
	Number, street, and room or suite no. If a P.O. box, see instructions. P.O. BOX 811	Social security number (SSN)
	City, town or post office, state, and ZIP code. For a foreign address, see instructions. FAIRFIELD, IA 52556	

Enter the Return code for the return that this application is for (file a separate application for each return)

01

Application Is For	Return Code	Application Is For	Return Code
Form 990 or Form 990-EZ	01	Form 990-T (corporation)	07
Form 990-BL	02	Form 1041-A	08
Form 4720 (individual)	03	Form 4720	09
Form 990-PF	04	Form 5227	10
Form 990-T (sec. 401(a) or 408(a) trust)	05	Form 6069	11
Form 990-T (trust other than above)	06	Form 8870	12

FAIRFIELD ACCOUNTING SERVICES

- The books are in the care of ► **504 NORTH 4TH ST., STE. 302 - FAIRFIELD, IA 52556**
Telephone No ► **641-472-6655** FAX No ►

- If the organization does not have an office or place of business in the United States, check this box ☐
- If this is for a Group Return, enter the organization's four digit Group Exemption Number (GEN) _____ If this is for the whole group, check this box ☐. If it is for part of the group, check this box ☐ and attach a list with the names and EINs of all members the extension is for.

- 1 I request an automatic 3-month (6 months for a corporation required to file Form 990-T) extension of time until **AUGUST 15, 2013**, to file the exempt organization return for the organization named above. The extension is for the organization's return for
► ☒ calendar year **2012** or
► ☐ tax year beginning _____, and ending _____.

- 2 If the tax year entered in line 1 is for less than 12 months, check reason ☐ Initial return ☐ Final return
☐ Change in accounting period

3a If this application is for Form 990-BL, 990-PF, 990-T, 4720, or 6069, enter the tentative tax, less any nonrefundable credits. See instructions.	3a	\$	0.
b If this application is for Form 990-PF, 990-T, 4720, or 6069, enter any refundable credits and estimated tax payments made. Include any prior year overpayment allowed as a credit.	3b	\$	0.
c Balance due. Subtract line 3b from line 3a. Include your payment with this form, if required, by using EFTPS (Electronic Federal Tax Payment System). See instructions.	3c	\$	0.

Caution. If you are going to make an electronic fund withdrawal with this Form 8868, see Form 8453-EO and Form 8879-EO for payment instructions.

LHA For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see instructions.

Form **8868** (Rev. 1-2013)

- If you are filing for an **Additional (Not Automatic) 3-Month Extension**, complete only **Part II** and check this box ☒

Note. Only complete Part II if you have already been granted an automatic 3-month extension on a previously filed Form 8868.

- If you are filing for an **Automatic 3-Month Extension**, complete only **Part I** (on page 1)

Part II Additional (Not Automatic) 3-Month Extension of Time. Only file the original (no copies needed).

Enter filer's identifying number, see instructions

Type or print File by the due date for filing your return. See instructions.	Name of exempt organization or other filer, see instructions JEFFERSON COUNTY FARMERS AND NEIGHBORS, INC.	Employer identification number (EIN) or 14-1926280
	Number, street, and room or suite no. If a P.O. box, see instructions P.O. BOX 811	Social security number (SSN)
	City, town or post office, state, and ZIP code. For a foreign address, see instructions FAIRFIELD, IA 52556	

Enter the Return code for the return that this application is for (file a separate application for each return)

0 1

Application Is For	Return Code	Application Is For	Return Code
Form 990 or Form 990-EZ	01		
Form 990-BL	02	Form 1041-A	08
Form 4720 (individual)	03	Form 4720	09
Form 990-PF	04	Form 5227	10
Form 990-T (sec. 401(a) or 408(a) trust)	05	Form 6069	11
Form 990-T (trust other than above)	06	Form 8870	12

STOP! Do not complete Part II if you were not already granted an automatic 3-month extension on a previously filed Form 8868.

FAIRFIELD ACCOUNTING SERVICES

- The books are in the care of **504 NORTH 4TH ST., STE. 302 - FAIRFIELD, IA 52556**

Telephone No **641-472-6655**

FAX No

- If the organization does not have an office or place of business in the United States, check this box ☐

- If this is for a Group Return, enter the organization's four digit Group Exemption Number (GEN) . If this is for the whole group, check this box ☐. If it is for part of the group, check this box ☐ and attach a list with the names and EINs of all members the extension is for.

4 I request an additional 3-month extension of time until **NOVEMBER 15, 2013**

5 For calendar year **2012**, or other tax year beginning , and ending

6 If the tax year entered in line 5 is for less than 12 months, check reason ☐ Initial return ☐ Final return
☐ Change in accounting period

7 State in detail why you need the extension

ADDITIONAL TIME IS REQUESTED TO GATHER THE INFORMATION NEEDED TO FILE A COMPLETE AND ACCURATE RETURN AND ALLOW THE ORGANIZATION TO COMPLETE ITS RELATED GOVERNANCE PROCESSES PRIOR TO FINALIZATION.

8a If this application is for Form 990-BL, 990-PF, 990-T, 4720, or 6069, enter the tentative tax, less any nonrefundable credits. See instructions.	8a	\$	0.
b If this application is for Form 990-PF, 990-T, 4720, or 6069, enter any refundable credits and estimated tax payments made. Include any prior year overpayment allowed as a credit and any amount paid previously with Form 8868.	8b	\$	0.
c Balance due. Subtract line 8b from line 8a. Include your payment with this form, if required, by using EFTPS (Electronic Federal Tax Payment System). See instructions.	8c	\$	0.

Signature and Verification must be completed for Part II only.

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this form, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete, and that I am authorized to prepare this form.

Signature **Denise Baldwin** Title **CPA**

Date **8-13-13**

Form 8868 (Rev. 1-2013)

Jefferson County Farmers & Neighbors, Inc.

2012 ANNUAL REPORT of ACTIVITIES

COMMUNITY EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Community Education - Publications

Published Spring/Summer 2012 Newsletter

Published Fall/Winter 2012 Newsletter

Updated JFAN website

www.jfaniowa.org

Published News from Jefferson County Farmers & Neighbors, Inc.

Published column in *Fairfield Weekly Reader* newspaper reporting on CAFO-related news.

- "EPA Finds Iowa DNR Deficient", July 2012

Emails to JFAN mailing list

Providing information on action alerts from Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement or other organizations as well as informational updates from JFAN

- CAFO Expansion Discussed at THIS Monday, January 16 Supervisor's Meeting, January 13, 2012
- Private Invitation to Important Meeting This Thursday, January 16, 2012
- Update on Private DNR Meeting This Thursday - January 18, 2012
- Action Alert: Ag Gag Bill Revived - Up for Vote, January 26, 2012
- Update on KK Finishers & Public Hearing Date, January 27, 2012
- Public Hearing Tomorrow - Thursday, Feb. 2 - KK Finishers Expansion, February 1, 2013
- Great News! Public Hearing Cancelled, February 2, 2012
- Free Film on Sustainable Livestock Production Tuesday, February 22, 2012
- KRUU Interview with American Meat Director Graham Meriwether - February 27, 2012
- Tonight! American Meat - Plus KRUU Interview, Trailer, February 28, 2012
- Action Alert - Ag-Gag Bill on Governor's Desk, March 2, 2012
- Action Alert - New Rule Would Weaken Factory Farm Enforcement, March 15, 2012
- JFAN at EcoFairfield This Weekend, April 20, 2012
- Volunteers Needed for Special JFAN Project, May 16, 2012
- Action Alert - CAFO Win; Potential Rule to Weaken Regulation - May 18, 2012
- This Week! Transcending Sustainability Conference, May 30 2012
- GFAN Needs Help to Stop CAFO - June 12, 2012
- New EPA Report - Iowa DNR Must Improve CAFO Permitting, July 15, 2012
- Excellent Article on How Farm Bureau Works, July 23, 2012
- Administrative Assistant Wanted for JFAN - July 24, 2012
- Jim Hightower - JFAN Annual Meeting!, September 14, 2012
- Don't Miss It! Jim Hightower - October 3! - September 20, 2012
- "Rousing and Inspirational", September 26, 2012
- Two Great Interviews, September 27, 2012
- Not Debatable - October 1, 2012
- Tonight! Paul and Ringo Join Jim Hightower - October 3, 2013
- DVD's of Jim Hightower at JFAN Annual Meeting, October 7, 2012
- Opportunity for Public Comment to EPA about Iowa DNR, October 9, 2012
- New Expansion at KK Finishers - Public Hearing Set, December 13, 2012
- Public Hearing Location for KK Finishers - December 14, 2012
- TONIGHT - Public Hearing for KK Finishers, December 26, 2012

- Good News! Supervisors Give Thumbs Down to KK Finishers Expansion, December 30, 2012

Began development of a manual and outreach program to teach other communities how to protect their counties from factory farms – January-May, 2012.

Community Education – Community Service

Distributed *CAFO: The Tragedy of Industrial Animal Factories* to 1500 individuals and organizations. Distribution: 900+ Iowa state officials, colleges, universities, and libraries and 500+ attendees of the 2012 JFAN Annual Meeting through a grant from Tides Foundation facilitated by Watershed Media – June and October 2012.

Provided consultation to the Humane Society of the United States on the recent check-off lawsuit filed against the National Pork Council – Fall 2012.

Took on college intern who later developed his senior project with JFAN, January 2012.

Alerted residents within a two-mile radius of the following CAFO activity:

- 2480-head CAFO by David Horras one mile southwest of Pleasant Plain city limits, May 2012.
- 2480-head CAFO by Dan Horras one mile southwest of Pleasant Plain city limits. Filed a complaint with the DNR contending that this new development should be considered an expansion of the previous David Horras CAFO, September 2012.
- 2400-head CAFO by Larry Anderson south of Germanville. Discussions with concerned neighbor, August 2012.
- 1200-head expansions to a 2490 head CAFO operations by Ryan Robertson at KK Finishers north of Pleasant Plain, December 2012.

Conducted in-depth discussions over a nine-month period with Iowa Department of Natural Resources regarding the manner in which the DNR handled the application process for Brighton Finishers and KK Finishers.

- Organized a meeting with the DNR and invited community members to present concerns.
- Followed up with DNR field offices and DNR legal staff over the nine-month period.

Conducted in-depth review of a third Master Matrix submitted by Ryan Robertson for KK Finishers. Contested points taken on the application during a public hearing, and filed formal comments regarding the confinement, December 2012.

Made a presentation, by invitation, at a meeting with the Environmental Protection Agency Region 7 Office on the Iowa Department of Natural Resources' enforcement of the federal Clean Water Act. Provided a formal report on experiences with DNR regarding the handling of the applications for Brighton Finishers and KK Finishers, October 2012.

Provided information and support to neighborhood groups in:

- **Kossuth County** regarding manure odors from neighboring CAFO. Compiled extensive odor mitigation information for neighbor.
- **Greene County Farmers & Neighbors** fighting two 4900 head CAFOs, including forwarding their email petition to the JFAN email list.
- **Dallas County** regarding 5000-head hog confinement, which was later withdrawn.
- **Black Hawk County** about a 1200-head cattle feedlot being built less than ½ mile from neighbor.
- **Wright County** regarding two 2400-head CAFOs to be built less than ½ mile away from century farm.

Community Education – Public Events

"American Meat"

February 28, 2012

Fairfield Public Library

100+ attendees

Free film presentation followed by discussion and question/answer period

Speakers:

Graham Meriwether, filmmaker

Francis Thicke, co-owner, Radiance Dairy

John Sandbooth, Iowa Farm Bureau

Areas Farmers

- Promoted the screening of this film to Jefferson County residents through press releases, articles, posters, emails, and JFAN website.
- Organized radio interview with filmmaker Graham Meriwether

Informational display at the Maharishi University of Management's EcoFairfield, April 20, 2012

JFAN Annual Community Meeting

"What Will It Take? Taking Back Our Food and Agriculture"

October 3, 2011

Fairfield Arts and Convention Center, Fairfield, IA

550+ attendees

Suggested donation: \$5

- Speaker: Jim Hightower, public speaker, radio commentator, author
- Publicized to southeast Iowan residents, legislators, and organizations via statewide press releases to the media, advertisements, press releases, articles, posters, emails, personal invitations, JFAN website, announcements from other organizations, and radio shows
- Radio interview with Jim Hightower on KRUU-FM
- Radio interview with Diane Rosenberg, Executive Director, on KKFD-FM and KMCD-AM in Fairfield promoting Annual Meeting
- Development of meeting handouts including program, information on JFAN, and donation forms
- Recorded meeting to post on website and to make available through DVD's
- Distributed **CAFO: The Tragedy of Industrial Animal Factories**, free, to all attendees

FUNDRAISING

Made fundraising calls and conducted fundraising meetings to generate donations from JFAN's supporters

Sent out letters acknowledging JFAN donations

Had a series of discussions with Humane Society of the United States representatives to pursue donation

JFAN ADMINISTRATION

Worked with accountants and bookkeepers on 2011 taxes

Handled accounts payable and deposits

Discussions with legal counsel and accountant on proper language and legal protection for JFAN printed materials, website, and public speaking

Monitored new CAFO development and manure spills countywide via news reports, DNR inquiries, and leads from county residents

Conducted job search and hired new administrative assistant

2012 COMMUNITY EDUCATION – EMAILS

CAFO Expansion Discussed at THIS Monday, January 16 Supervisors Meeting – January 13

Dear JFAN Supporters,

JFAN has been closely monitoring Ryan Robertson's expansions at KK Finishers and Brighton Finishers in northern Jefferson County. This **Monday, January 16, the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors will be scoring the new Master Matrix for KK Finishers. The meeting begins at 9:00 am** and the scoring will be addressed early in the meeting.

At the December 22 public hearing, the supervisors did not recommend that the DNR approve the construction permit for KK Finishers as the Master Matrix did not meet the minimum 440 points out of 880. A new Master Matrix was submitted just hours before the public hearing, but without enough time for review, it was not considered at the public hearing. This is the Master Matrix that will now be scored on Monday.

The supervisors also still have to decide if they will hold another public hearing specifically on the KK Finishers site and will decide that on Monday morning as well. Therefore, **if they decide against a public hearing, the Monday supervisors meeting may be the only opportunity to make public comments on the Master Matrix for KK Finishers.**

JFAN will attend this meeting, and we encourage any others interested in making any public comments to attend as well.

The Master Matrix will be scored as one of the first meeting agenda items. At the conclusion of the entire meeting, the public will then have an opportunity to comment on the Master Matrix. If you will be attending and would like your comments forwarded to the DNR, we recommend you bring a written version of what you would like to say.

JFAN will continue to monitor these two expansions and provide updates as available.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email us at jfan@lisco.com or call 209-6600.

Thank you for all you do.

JFAN Board of Directors

Private Invitation to Important Meeting This Thursday – January 16, 2012

Dear Diane,

During the past two months, JFAN has conducted an in-depth study of the expansions to KK Finishers and Brighton Finishers in northeast Jefferson County. These CAFOs, owned by Ryan Robertson, would add 1200 hogs to each 2490-head site. Based on our research, we have a number of environmental concerns surrounding both CAFOs.

As a result, JFAN and Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement have arranged for a private meeting with Roger Lande, Director of the Department of Natural Resources and Gene Tinker, Coordinator of Animal Feeding Operations, to discuss our concerns and show why the DNR should deny these expansions. This meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 19, 3:00 pm at the Fairfield Public Library Community Meeting Room.

We are inviting a limited number of people to attend this private meeting with us and would like to extend a personal invitation to you, a key JFAN supporter, to join us this Thursday and lend your support.

JFAN and Iowa CCI will each make presentations to Mr. Lande and Mr. Tinker, and there will be time allotted for attendees to make comments as well. This is a rare opportunity to meet with two of the DNR's top decision-makers to protect our county against two expansions that we feel can potentially harm the environment.

Background information on these confinements follows this invitation.

Please RSVP to jfan@lisco.com or 209-6600 to let us know if you will attend. If you have any questions about these expansions, please feel free to contact us as well.

We hope you will join us this Thursday. A well-attended meeting will strengthen our position in calling for the rejection of these facilities.

Thank you for all you do.

Regards,

Diane Rosenberg
Executive Director

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Background Information on the Expansions to KK Finishers and Brighton Finishers

Ryan Robertson owns and operates KK Finishers and Brighton Finishers in northeast Jefferson County. The CAFOs are located at 1031 Quince Avenue in Penn Township and 1083 Germantown Road in Walnut Township, respectively. Each CAFO presently has two buildings housing a total of 2490 hogs at each site. The expansions would add an additional 1200 hogs to each location and entail constructing a new confinement building at each facility.

A public hearing was held on December 22 at the Jefferson County Courthouse to hear comments and score the Master Matrixes for both facilities. JFAN cited that the 30 points taken on both matrixes for no violations within five years should be disqualified since Mr. Robertson, with a history of violations, had a violation as recently as four years ago. Brighton Finishers had a requested scoring of 470, which was then reduced to 440 points, the minimum passing grade out of 880. KK Finishers, starting at 440 points, was brought down to 430.

To complicate matters, Mr. Robertson submitted a revised a Master Matrix for KK Finishers just hours before the public hearing. Since there was no time for a review before the public hearing, the new matrix was not considered and based on the 430 score of the original Master Matrix, the supervisors denied recommending that the DNR approve KK Finishers' construction permit.

In addition, Mr. Robertson also submitted a revised Master Matrix for Brighton Finishers, but the supervisors assumed it only removed the 30 points to bring it to 440. It wasn't until the next day that JFAN discovered that some of the other scoring was changed as well. However, the supervisors did pass the original Brighton Master Matrix pending DNR approval of the manure management plan.

At the public hearing, JFAN brought up several concerns, among which are Mr. Robertson's violation record and a manure management plan that appears to be insufficient for the amount of manure his facilities will produce. (JFAN's statement made at the public hearing is attached.) These are among the several points that will be discussed at the DNR meeting.

Even with county supervisor input, the DNR has final say in whether or not a CAFO is approved. This meeting with the DNR has the potential to significantly impact whether or not these expansions will occur. With your support, we can show the DNR that Jefferson County values its quality of life and environment. We hope you can join us on Thursday, January 19 at 3:00 at the Fairfield Library Community Room.

Action Alert: Ag Gag Bill Revived - Up for Vote - January 26, 2012

Dear JFAN Supporter,

The Iowa State Legislature is reviving HF 589, the "Ag Gag" bill that would criminalize taking photos or video recordings at factory farms and other agricultural sites. It would make documenting abuses a Class C Federal offense.

We are forwarding information on this bill from Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement with steps you can take immediately if you agree with this call to action.

Thank you for all you do.

JFAN Board of Directors

From Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement:

URGENT: IOWA SENATE TO VOTE ON BAD "AG GAG" BILL

Legislators are poised to bring the "Ag gag" bill up for a vote again. We think this bill should be DOA

HF 589 is an attempt by the factory farm industry to criminalize basic watchdog functions that everyday folks have to hold factory farms accountable for violations they commit

Iowans need to be able to record violations that occur, such as dead hogs being piled and left for days or manure spills and other manure violations. Documentation has been critical in getting the Iowa DNR and other agencies to take enforcement action

Call your Senator ASAP and tell them to VOTE NO by clicking here:

<http://www.capwiz.com/iowacci/callalert/index.tt?alertid=60794146>

Update:

Yesterday, the Iowa Senate deferred debate and voting on the "Ag-Gag" bill House File 589. Legislators on our side are trying to file more amendments to gut the bill and slow it down. Legislators who support the bill are working on an amendment to "fix" the bill and make it constitutional ("fix" amendment is S-5004)

It appears, however, that legislators - both Democrats and Republicans - seem intent on passing this bill in some form. And, we suspect an amended version will come up for a vote very soon, though not today

Our message remains the same: "Ag Gag" bill is a waste of time and bad policy. This bill should be dropped for good.

Calls are having an impact - keep them coming!

Today and next week: Call your Senator today, click here

<http://www.capwiz.com/iowacci/callalert/index.tt?alertid=60794146>

(The Senate Switchboard is open from 8 am - 4.30 pm, M - Th)

Details on HF 589 – the "Ag gag" bill:

- It criminalizes "tampering" with a factory farm – damaging a factory farm, killing livestock, theft, or disruption of operations. This is already illegal and is redundant
- It criminalizes "interference" with a factory farm – videoing or photographing of a factory farm and violations occurring on a factory farm would become a misdemeanor. Entering onto a factory farm (which is already trespassing) is also included as interference
- It criminalizes "fraud" of a factory farm. If someone gains access to a factory farm through false pretenses, they would be charged with a misdemeanor. Again – this is redundant. It is already against the law to seek employment by misrepresenting yourself
- It allows a factory farm to bring civil actions (sue) against anyone who commits these acts for damages up to 3 times the amount of actual damage. This section has the potential to allow factory farms to sue everyday citizens who document manure spills, dead livestock violations, and other violations that may occur at factory farms.
- This bill applies these same violations to "crop operations" which is loosely defined as a location where a crop is maintained. A crop field, orchard, nursery, greenhouse, garden, elevator, seedhouse, barn, or warehouse

You can read the full detailed bill here

<http://coolice.legis.state.ia.us/Cool-ICE/default.asp?Category=billinfo&Service=Billbook&menu=false&hbill=hf589>

Stand up for clean air and water and ag policies that put the common good ahead of the corporate few

The Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement Action Fund is a 501c4 non-profit organization dedicated to building social, economic, and environmental justice through community organizing, education, and advocacy

To learn more about the Iowa CCI Action Fund, contact our office at 515/282-0484 or cciaction@cciaction.org

Visit us online at www.cciaction.org or www.facebook.com/cciaction

Update on Private DNR Meeting This Thursday – January 18, 2012

Dear [FirstName],

The meeting with JFAN, Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement, and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources is scheduled to begin at 3:00 pm on Thursday, January 19 when Director Roger Lande and Gene Tinker, Head of Animal Operations, will arrive.

We would like to invite you to come earlier, at 2:30 pm, so we may be able to provide you with a overview of our strategy prior to the actual meeting. We feel this will create more cohesiveness and unity in our group and strengthen our presentation.

Several people have asked if they would be required to make comments during the meeting. This is completely optional. If you so wish, you are welcome to make a brief statement during the audience comment section toward the end of the meeting. What is most important is your presence at the meeting. That, in and of itself, will make a very strong statement to the DNR that will support our efforts.

Yesterday's email erroneously omitted JFAN's public comments at the 12/22/11 public hearing. They are attached here for your information.

Thank you for all your support. We look forward to seeing you on Thursday at 2:30 pm at the Fairfield Public Library Meeting Room.

Best wishes,
Diane Rosenberg
Executive Director

Jefferson County Farmers & Neighbors, Inc.

P.O. Box 811
Fairfield, IA 52556
www.jfaniowa.org
jfan@lisco.com
641-209-6600

Action Alert: Ag Gag Bill Revived - Up for Vote – January 26, 2012

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JEFFERSON COUNTY FARMERS & NEIGHBORS, INC.

Update on KK Finishers & Public Hearing Date – January 27, 2012

Update on KK Finishers Expansion Master Matrix Scoring and Public Hearing Date

Background

Ryan Robertson has applied for construction permits to expand two of his existing CAFOs near Pleasant Plain. Currently, each CAFO houses 2490 hogs. He is proposing to expand each to house 3690 hogs. Because these CAFOs will be expanded to over 2500 hogs, Mr. Robertson is required to apply for a construction permit, which must be approved by the DNR. Additionally, as with all new or expanding CAFOs over 2500 hogs, Mr. Robertson must receive a passing score (440 out of 880 points) on the Master Matrix test for each CAFO. The County Board of Supervisors scores the Master Matrix.

Update and Public Hearing Announcement

Last Monday, January 16, during their weekly board meeting, the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors postponed scoring KK Finishers’ Master Matrix in order to research the validity of some of the points taken by Mr. Robertson. Based on their findings, the supervisors voted during this week’s meeting to not approve KK Finishers’ Master Matrix.

The supervisors noted that Mr. Robertson had taken 25 points for Question 22 concerning an applicant’s ability to take the Homestead Tax Exemption. Individuals qualifying for these points must have a home on the same property as the confinement or on a contiguous piece of land. JFAN was prepared to address this point at the meeting, but it proved unnecessary. Supervisor Steve Burgmeier reported that Jefferson County Assessor Sherri Blough-Neff could not provide any proof or documentation that Mr. Robertson did reside at the Quince Avenue CAFO site. There is no home there, nor does he live on a contiguous piece of property.

Mr. Robertson had scored his Master Matrix at 440 points, the minimum passing grade. Deducting the 25 unqualified points, the supervisors scored it at 415 points, a failing score.

At the January 16 supervisors meeting, the board decided to schedule a public meeting on KK Finishers' Master Matrix on **Thursday, February 2 at 4:30 pm in the Courtroom at the Jefferson County Courthouse**. This week, they discussed whether to still hold the meeting even though the Master Matrix didn't pass. At the advice of assistant county attorney Pat McAvan, the supervisors agreed to go ahead with the public hearing next Thursday as it will provide an opportunity for both sides to make public comments for or against the KK Finishers expansion.

Even though the supervisors are prepared to deny the Master Matrix based on the failing score and recommend to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) against the expansion, JFAN encourages the community to still attend this meeting to reinforce that decision and to address any unanticipated developments.

JFAN will again make public comments against the expansion, and we will be prepared for any unexpected changes in the scoring procedure. Should the supervisors follow through with a denial, the recommendation for denial will then go back to the DNR who will review the Master Matrix and construction permit at that time. The DNR has final say in whether or not a construction permit is issued for a CAFO.

JFAN and Iowa CCI in Meeting with DNR Last Week

On Thursday, January 19, JFAN and Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement (CCI) made a solid, fact-based presentation to the Iowa DNR advising against approval of the construction permits for both facilities. JFAN presented weaknesses in both Master Matrixes and the inadequacies of the manure management plans that were initially brought out at the December 22 public hearing. Since that time, JFAN has uncovered additional problems with the amount of manure proposed to be applied to the fields in the manure management plans, including discovery that Mr. Robertson was using the same fields for manure application in a third CAFO he owns. The DNR did not previously know about this double dipping.

The DNR listened to our arguments and will be following up on the points we raised. Director Roger Lande was to attend this meeting, but backed out at the last minute. We were fortunate to have Gene Tinker, Head of Animal Operations; Dennis Ostwinkle, Supervisor of the Washington Field Office; and Bert Noll, Environmental Specialist in Animal Feeding Operations from the Washington office, attend the meeting.

According to County Attorney McAvan, should Mr. Robertson submit a new Master Matrix prior to the February 2 public hearing, as was done prior to the December public hearing, it will not be considered, and the hearing will center on the current Master Matrix. If the supervisors follow through with a final recommendation against approval of KK Finishers' Master Matrix, Mr. Robertson will not have an opportunity to submit a new Master Matrix before the approval process returns back to the DNR. If the DNR concurs with the supervisors, the CAFO will not be approved. If Mr. Robertson intends to pursue this expansion, he will have to start the process all over again with a new construction permit application and \$500 filing fee.

The supervisors conditionally recommended approval for Brighton Finishers pending DNR approval of the manure management plan at the December 22 public hearing. The DNR is continuing its investigation and review of the application, especially in light of JFAN's findings. A final decision is yet to be made. JFAN will keep you posted on any further developments.

**PUBLIC HEARING – Thursday, February 2 at 7:30 pm
JFAN recommends the public to attend even in light of the KK Master Matrix scoring.**

Public Hearing Tomorrow - Thurs, Feb 2 - KK Finishers Expansion – February 1, 2012

Public Hearing Tomorrow

**KK Finishers Expansion
Thursday, February 2 at 4:30 pm
Courtroom - 2nd floor
Jefferson County Courthouse**

Dear JFAN Supporters,

We encourage everyone to attend tomorrow's public hearing of KK Finishers expansion. In case you haven't seen our previous email updating you on this expansion and the public hearing, we are including it again below.

Thank you for all your support and for all you do.

JFAN Board of Directors

Update on KK Finishers Expansion Master Matrix Scoring and Public Hearing

Background

Ryan Robertson has applied for construction permits to expand two of his existing CAFOs near Pleasant Plain. Currently, each CAFO houses 2490 hogs. He is proposing to expand each to house 3690 hogs. Because these CAFOs will be expanded to over 2500 hogs, Mr. Robertson is required to apply for a construction permit, which must be approved by the DNR. Additionally, as with all new or expanding CAFOs over 2500 hogs, Mr. Robertson must receive a passing score (440 out of 880 points) on the Master Matrix test for each CAFO. The County Board of Supervisors scores the Master Matrix.

Update and Public Hearing Announcement

Last Monday, January 16, during their weekly board meeting, the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors postponed scoring KK Finishers' Master Matrix in order to research the validity of some of the points taken by Mr. Robertson. Based on their findings, the supervisors voted during this week's meeting to not approve KK Finishers' Master Matrix.

The supervisors noted that Mr. Robertson had taken 25 points for Question 22 concerning an applicant's ability to take the Homestead Tax Exemption. Individuals qualifying for these points must have a home on the same property as the confinement or on a contiguous piece of land. JFAN was prepared to address this point at the meeting, but it proved unnecessary. Supervisor Steve Burgmeier reported that Jefferson County Assessor Sherri Blough-Neff could not provide any proof or documentation that Mr. Robertson did reside at the Quince Avenue CAFO site. There is no home there, nor does he live on a contiguous piece of property.

Mr. Robertson had scored his Master Matrix at 440 points, the minimum passing grade. Deducting the 25 unqualified points, the supervisors scored it at 415 points, a failing score.

At the January 16 supervisors meeting, the board decided to schedule a public meeting on KK Finishers' Master Matrix on **Thursday, February 2 at 4:30 pm in the Courtroom at the Jefferson County Courthouse**. This week, they discussed whether to still hold the meeting even though the Master Matrix didn't pass. At the advice of assistant county attorney Pat McAvan, the supervisors agreed to go ahead with the public hearing next Thursday as it will provide an opportunity for both sides to make public comments for or against the KK Finishers expansion.

Even though the supervisors are prepared to deny the Master Matrix based on the failing score and recommend to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) against the expansion, JFAN encourages the community to still attend this meeting to reinforce that decision and to address any unanticipated developments.

JFAN will again make public comments against the expansion, and we will be prepared for any unexpected changes in the scoring procedure. Should the supervisors follow through with a denial, the recommendation for denial will then go back to the DNR who will review the Master Matrix and construction permit at that time. The DNR has final say in whether or not a construction permit is issued for a CAFO.

JFAN and Iowa CCI in Meeting with DNR Last Week

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PUBLIC HEARING – Thursday, February 2 at 4:30 pm

JFAN recommends the public to attend even in light of the KK Master Matrix scoring.

Great News! – Public Hearing Cancelled – February 2, 2012

Dear JFAN Supporter,

We have great news! Ryan Robertson has withdrawn his application for the expansion to KK Finishers. **Today's public hearing is cancelled.** As of now, there will be no further expansion to KK Finishers.

Should Mr. Robertson reapply in the future, JFAN will be ready to again make a careful evaluation of the construction permit application and Master Matrix.

Thank you for all your support and for all you do.

JFAN Board of Directors

Free Film on Sustainable Livestock Production Tuesday – February 22, 2012

Dear JFAN Supporters,

We are forwarding this announcement to inform you that filmmaker Graham Meriwether will be screening *American Meat*, a documentary about the growing trend toward sustainable animal production, on Tuesday, February 28 at the Fairfield Public Library.

American Meat is a thoughtful, engaging view of livestock production that avoids polarization. In fact, it has been well received by both sustainable advocates and those involved with industrial agriculture.

We encourage you to attend on Tuesday!

Thank you for all you do,
JFAN Board of Directors

American Meat: A Look at the Future of Food Production

**Free Film Screening, Tuesday, February 28 at 7:30 pm
Fairfield Public Library**

Plus Panel Discussion with Filmmaker Graham Meriwether, Radiance Dairy Co-owner Francis Thicke, Iowa Farm Bureau Regional Manager John Sandbooth, and Area Farmers

A uniquely even-handed look at how animals are raised in the US, *American Meat* chronicles America's grass-roots revolution in sustainable locally based farming and explains how America arrived at its current industrial system. The documentary, which features several Iowa farmers and agricultural leaders, will be screened on Tuesday, February 28, at the Fairfield Public Library beginning at 7:30. A panel discussion with New York City filmmaker Graham Meriwether will follow. Admission is free.

Meriwether shows feedlots and confinement houses, not through hidden cameras, but through the eyes of the farmers who work in them. The story shifts to the burgeoning sustainable local-food movement of farmers, chefs, and everyday folks who might just change everything about the way meat reaches the American table.

Meriwether and his team spent four years traveling across the country interviewing both farmers pursuing alternative livestock systems and those who work for industrial production systems, taking care to provide a balanced human perspective at the economic and environmental issues facing farmers today.

An open discussion with panel members and the audience follows the film. Panelists will include Meriwether, Radiance Dairy co-owner Francis Thicke, Iowa Farm Bureau Regional Manager John Sandbooth, and area farmers.

Meriwether will be on hand for three other local screenings including Fairfield High School and Van Buren High School. *American Meat* has been shown in dozens of venues throughout Iowa, including many high schools. The movie has been well received by both sustainable advocates and industrial agriculture proponents.

American Meat also examines the debate over whether small-scale sustainable farming can ever produce enough food to feed America. In a surprising move, Virginia farmer Joel Salatin, featured in Michael Pollan's book *The Omnivores Dilemma*, inks a deal to provide pork for the Chipotle restaurants in Charlottesville and Harrisonburg, a step with widespread implications for the meat industry.

Iowans featured in the film include farmers Chuck Wirtz of West Bend and Paul Willis of Thornton; Dave Murphy and Lisa Stokke, leaders of Food Democracy Now!; and agronomist Fred Kirschenmann of the Ames-based Leopold Center for Sustainable Farming.

The 85-minute feature is the first from Leave It Better, a non-profit, solutions-based environmental organization founded by Meriwether.

KRUU Interview with American Meat Director Graham Meriwether –February 27, 2012

Dear JFAN Supporters,

KRUU's Corey Hickenbottom interviewed ***American Meat*** director Graham Meriwether, and KRUU will play the 19-minute clip tonight at 6:30 pm as well as tomorrow, Tuesday February 28 at 12:30 pm.

It's a wonderful interview with Graham talking about the making of ***American Meat*** and the positive impact the film is having throughout Iowa.

In case you can't tune in at those times, you can listen to the interview here:

<http://kruufm.com/node/12630>

American Meat is a solutions-oriented documentary about the current state of the US livestock industry and the growing trend toward alternative, locally-based production methods. The movie will be shown at the **Fairfield Public Library tomorrow evening, Tuesday, February 28, at 7:30 pm**. A panel and audience discussion will follow the film.

Admission is free.

Thank you for all you do,
JFAN Board of Supervisors

PS - We apologize if you are receiving a duplicate announcement. We experienced some technical difficulties in getting this out.

Tonight - American Meat - Plus KRUU Interview, Trailer –February 28, 2012

TONIGHT! Tuesday, February 28

**American Meat
7:30 pm
Fairfield Public Library**

Plus Panel/Audience Discussion with

Graham Meriwether, Filmmaker; Francis Thicke, Co-owner Radiance Dairy; John Sandbooth, Regional Manager, Iowa Farm Bureau Regional Manager; and Area Farmers

American Meat is a solutions-oriented documentary about the current state of the US livestock industry and the growing trend toward alternative, locally-based production methods.

"American Meat is journalism as art. It manages to hold a mirror to the business of protein production while still reflecting on our common humanity. It takes extraordinary discipline and courage to let people tell their own stories, which is where the film really shines. Masterful."

-- Suzanne Nelson, pastured livestock farmer and former journalist, Cozi Farms, Saxapahaw, N.C.

Hear Graham Meriwether talk with KRUU's Corey Hickenbottom on the making of American Meat and the positive impact it's having throughout Iowa <http://kruufm.com/node/12630>

Catch it on KRUU today at 12:30 pm, too.

Watch the trailer at www.americanmeatfilm.com

Admission is Free

Action Alert - Ag-Gag Bill On Governor's Desk - March 2, 2012

Dear JFAN Supporters,

We are passing along the following action alert, a compilation of alerts from Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement and Food and Water Watch, on the Iowa Senate's passage of the "Ag Gag" bill.

This bill would criminalize whistle-blowing activities on factory farms. Please take a moment to read this action alert. The Iowa CCI and Food and Water Watch are requesting supporters to call Governor' Branstad to ask him to veto this bill.

Thank you for all you do,
JFAN Board of Directors

Compiled from Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement and Food & Water Watch

Ag-Gag Bill Passes Iowa Legislature

Now On Governor's Desk

Call Governor Branstad today to tell him to veto the Ag-Gag bill

Earlier this week, the Iowa legislature granted another special favor to the factory farm industry by passing the 'Ag-Gag' bill. This bill looks to criminalize whistleblowers who gain access to factory farms and document their abusive practices. As consumers and citizens, we have the right to know how our food is produced, without the veil of special protections. This legislation is now on our Governor's desk waiting to be signed into law. Please take action to urge Governor Branstad to veto this bill.

Two articles appeared in yesterday's Des Moines Register. On the front page: **"Ag gag bill may gag free speech, says legal scholars."** <http://tinyurl.com/7y67h5n> Iowa Civil Liberties Union's Randall Wilson is quoted saying, "We all know it's a thinly veiled attempt to eliminate investigative reporting and whistle-blowing regarding abuses in our food production chain."

On the editorial page: **"Livestock 'fraud' bill is disappointing; How can it be a crime to tell the truth** <<http://tinyurl.com/7th4q3c>> "What the bill really does is make it a criminal act for an employee to report what happens inside those facilities. Put another way, whistle-blowers could be fined or jailed for telling the truth."

If you disagree with this bill, call Governor Terry Branstad today at 515-281-5211, and tell him to veto the Ag Gag bill.

This alert is being forwarded to you as part of JFAN's mission to provide community education.

Action Alert - New Rule Would Weaken Factory Farm Enforcement - March 15, 2012

Dear JFAN Supporters,

We are forwarding this action alert from Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement (CCI) about an important Environmental Protection Commission meeting next Tuesday, March 20 that will address a new rule that would further weaken factory farm enforcement actions.

Please take a moment to learn about this new rule, how it could affect enforcement actions, and why attending this meeting is important, if you agree with this call to action.

Thank you for all you do,
JFAN Board of Directors

This alert is being forwarded to you as part of JFAN's mission to provide community education.

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From Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement

An urgent clean water action alert from Iowa CCI

A big-moneyed corporate ag interest group called the Iowa Association of Business and Industry (ABI) has proposed a new rule to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) that, if passed, will weaken the DNR's ability to crack down on factory farm polluters who violate our clean water laws and signal to the industry that the DNR is going to take a "hands-off" approach to enforcement.

Will you join us next Tuesday, March 20 and speak out at the Environmental Protection Commission's (EPC's) meeting to demand the DNR stop kowtowing to the corporate factory farm industry and start standing up for clean air and clean water?

We'll meet at the CCI statewide headquarters, 2001 Forest Avenue at 9am and then head out to the DNR Air Quality Control Building, 7900 Hickman Road in Windsor Heights in time for the 10am EPC meeting.

Imagine a factory farm operator a mile from your local community spills 10,000 gallons of toxic manure into a tile line that runs into a nearby river, lake, or stream, resulting in hundreds of fish kills. Now imagine instead of investigating the spill and levying the toughest fines and penalties allowed by law, the DNR has an "informal meeting" with the operator, and sends a "letter of noncompliance" asking them not to do it again. **Does that sound like a good deterrent to you?**

The sad thing is, *the DNR already does this in too many cases*. But the new rule being pushed by ABI would formalize this bad policy in writing, making it more difficult for everyday people to ensure strong and effective public oversight of factory farm polluters in the future, even if priorities shift in two years with a new governor and a new DNR director.

The EPC meeting March 20 is our first shot out of the gate to take on ABI's new rule proposal, and a strong public showing on Tuesday will set up the next two steps in this fight. **Will you be there to stand up for a good government that puts communities before corporations and people before profits, politics, and polluters?**

For a more just and democratic Iowa that puts people first,

Natalie Snyders
Farming and Environment Organizer, Iowa CCI

Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement is a group of everyday people who talk, act and get things done on issues that matter most. With thousands of members from all walks of life -- urban and rural, black and white, immigrants and lifelong Iowans -- CCI has been tackling tough issues and getting things done for more than 35 years.

To learn more about CCI, contact our office at 515/282-0484 or [jowacci](mailto:jowacci@iowacci.org) at [iowacci dot org](http://iowacci.org).

JFAN at EcoFairfield This Weekened – April 20, 2012

Dear JFAN Supporters,

EcoFairfield – an expanded community-wide version of EcoFair – is happening throughout Fairfield this weekend, Friday April 20 through Sunday April 22. EcoFairfield is a weekend of community celebration, learning, and service. Events include:

- Dynamic Speakers including Fred Kirschenmann, Francis Thicke and Seth Braun
- Workshops on Sustainable Living
- The Ever Popular EcoJam Fashion Show
- Eco-Arts
- Jobs and Internship Fair
- Green Vendors Fair
- MUM Sustainability Center Tours
- Family Activities
- Community Service
- And More!

JFAN is a sponsor of this year's EcoFairfield. Come visit us on Saturday at our table at the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center.

For the entire schedule of EcoFairfield visit: <http://ecofairfield.wordpress.com/schedule-of-events/>

Thank you for all you do,

JFAN Board of Directors

Volunteers Needed for Special JFAN Project – May 16, 2012

Dear Friends,

JFAN has received a large grant to distribute ***CAFO: The Tragedy of Industrial Animal Factories***, an impressive book on confined animal feeding operations featuring 450 photographs and 30 essays by today's leading thinkers on food and agriculture.

CAFO: The Tragedy of Industrial Animal Factories is a powerful indictment of modern food production systems with a vision for a healthier, sustainable future. It's many contributors include Wendell Berry, Wenonah Hauter, Fred Kirschenmann, Michael Pollan, Eric Schlosser, and Robert Kennedy, Jr.

JFAN will be distributing over 1000 copies of ***CAFO: The Tragedy of Industrial Animal Factories*** throughout Iowa to state and local government officials, universities, and a selection of libraries. This is a wonderful opportunity to widely educate about the CAFO issue and alternative farming methods.

JFAN will receive a shipment of these books in the next 2-3 weeks. We are now in the process of organizing a volunteer effort to get the books out. A local office has generously offered space for this purpose, and a work party will take place during business hours over the course of a week. Dates and times soon to be announced.

Would you be interested in helping us accomplish this task? Your assistance would be invaluable in helping us quickly get the mailing out. The work will be easy and fun.

In appreciation of your efforts, you will receive a complimentary copy of ***CAFO: The Tragedy of Industrial Animal Factories***.

If you would be willing to help, please call me directly at 472-9332 or email me at jfan@lisco.com, and let me know what your availability may be.

Thanks for considering this volunteer opportunity!

Best regards,

Diane Rosenberg

Diane Rosenberg
Executive Director
Jefferson County Farmers & Neighbors, Inc.

Action Alert - CAFO Win; Potential Rule to Weaken Regulation – May 18, 2012

Dear JFAN Supporters,

We are forwarding this action alert from Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement with a great story about how community action stopped a hotly contested CAFO in Dallas County.

The group worked with CCI, and JFAN offered advice and support based on our successes here in Jefferson County. The group's name – Dallas County Farmers & Neighbors – appears to be inspired by JFAN.

This alert also contains a call to action to stop a rule that would make the Iowa Department of Natural Resources take a "hands off" approach to enforcing factory farm regulations.

Please take a moment to read about the rule and learn about the steps you can take if you agree with this call to action.

Thank you for all you do.
JFAN Board of Directors

From Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement

We write with good news and to ask for three minutes of your time.

The good news: We stopped a factory farm from being built in Dallas County!

Over the last two weeks, we've been working with about 60 people in the area to stop a 5,000-head Cargill-backed hog factory. And, yesterday, a Dallas County Supervisor hand-delivered the official word to CCI members Rick & Stacy Hartmann's home that the developer dropped his plans. *(Read the letter at the end of this email.)*

This is a huge victory, and we won because members and others worked together, stayed hopeful, used a lot of creativity and refused to give up. They engaged the developer directly, got our message out to the public through the media and a very visible picket outside the developer's business and even sent a Mother's Day card to the developer's wife asking her to consider the concerns of the other neighborhood mothers.

This news also means that CCI members, like you, have stopped four factory farms in the past two months thanks to tough organizing and putting pressure where it needs to be put. That's no small accomplishment. You should be very proud.

Take three minutes to help us turn in 500 comments to the DNR:

Right now Iowans in twelve counties are fighting to stop more than 20 new or expanding hog factory sites <http://iowacci.org/in-the-news/surge-in-factory-farm-construction/>. **Why?** In large part because the laws on the books put corporate ag polluters and their profits before the common good and our land.

No where is that more evident than in the bad rule the Iowa Association of Business and Industry is trying to pass right now. **The ABI is trying to put force our Department of Natural Resources to take a "hands off" approach to factory farm enforcement which means more factory farms and more manure in our water. We need your help to stop it.**

So far 254 Iowans have submitted comments to the DNR to help stop this ridiculously bad rule. We need you to take action, too.

Help All DNR Director Roger Lande's in-box: Tell DNR to crackdown on factory farms and say NO to weakened factory farm enforcement.

<http://www.capwiz.com/iowacci/issues/alert/?alertid=61111666>

We will hand deliver your comments to the DNR *and* the head of the Assoc. of Business and Industry June 5.

Thank you!

There's one thing we know for sure - CCI members aren't ones to just sit by and let things happen. Thanks for knowing that we need to confront corporate power and be fearless truth-tellers, tough organizers and non-stop activists to see the Iowa we want to see.

For a "People First" Iowa,

Adam Mason,
Policy Director

Letter from Mike and Susan Brelsford, Developers of the Withdrawn 5000 Head Hog Confinement in Dallas County:

*Brelsford Family Farms
May 15, 2012*

Our family has made the decision to withdraw our application to build a hog confinement building in Dallas County.

As a Third Generation family farm, our values are deeply rooted to farming the land today, and for future generations. We also believe in being a strong supporter of our rural community.

After taking into account and addressing the concerns from immediate neighbors, our decision is to withdraw our application.

We would like to thank the people who have shown positive support for our family farm and to the people committed to growing Iowa agriculture.

*Mike and Susan Brelsford
Brelsford Family Farms*

Transcending Sustainability Conference This Week – May 30, 2012

Dear JFAN Supporters,

As part of our community education mission, we are passing along information about the Transcending Sustainability Conference that begins tomorrow and runs through the weekend. You can participate for the entire event or just one or two days. We hope you take a moment to check out this exciting, cutting-edge conference. Speakers include John Ikerd, who spoke at the 2009 JFAN Annual Meeting.

Thank you for all you do,
JFAN Board of Directors

Transcending Sustainability Conference
Principles and Paradigms Exploring Deep Sustainability

May 31 – June 3, 2012

Thursday 12:00 noon - Sunday 1:00 pm

Location: Fairfield, Iowa at

New MUM Sustainable Living Building and St. Mary's Project

Conference Fee:

- Total conference registration fee is \$50 for students, \$95 all others -- includes lunch Thursday, Friday, and Sunday
- You may also pay a per-day rate of \$25 based on your ability to attend.

Finances tight? Ask about our volunteer-exchange option (Call or email Molly 319-594-0086 m_martlin@yahoo.com)

This conference will challenge you to develop and experience a deeper and fuller understanding of sustainability and to co-create a new vision for a world that does not yet exist. The weekend will give you an opportunity to help take sustainability to the "next level" by interacting with people working in this field from all over the country!

Thematic workshops will allow participants to more deeply cultivate the skills and knowledge necessary to meet challenges in:

- Principles of Economic Sustainability – John Ikerd
- Design, Technology, Sustainability – Lonnie Gamble
- Philosophies of Sustainability – Travis Cox
- Investing for Sustainability – Stuart Valentine
- Community Organizing & Sustainability – Andrew Perry and Colin Heaton

Open space opportunities will encourage conversations among participants and others from the community addressing issues of mutual interest. We all have much to learn from one another.

Who should attend: Priority groups include community organizers, activists and social change agents, teachers and administrators, environmentalists, business leaders, as well as others who want to learn for their personal benefit.

To Register, call Sue at 1(800)509-9096 or visit www.newacademyforsustainability.org

Sponsored by: Sustainable Living Department-Maharishi University of Management, Centerpoint Investment Strategies, Bonnell Project, St Mary's Project, Sustainable Living Coalition, Fairfield Sustainability Coordinator Office, ISU Extension, Fairfield Convention Center and Visitors Bureau, KRUU-100.1 FM, My Therapy Company, Mike Callicrate, Radiance Dairy

GFAN Needs Help to Stop CAFO – June 12, 2012

Dear Friends,

We are passing along a petition from Greene County Farmers & Neighbors (GFAN), who are fighting a 5000-head CAFO in their community. As part of our community education mission, we are letting you know about another community who needs some help. Because of the expansion of CAFO development in Iowa this year, many communities across the state are fighting new or expanding confinements in their areas.

Click on the link below to sign if you agree with this call to action.

Thank you for all you do,
JFAN Board of Directors

From Greene County Farmers & Neighbors, Inc.

Dear Family, Friends and Neighbors,

Just a few minutes of your time can make all the difference to us. You could help save our dream, our neighbors' dreams and our quality of life and property values.

PLEASE SIGN the petition from Greene County Farmers & Neighbors TODAY!

It tells Prestage to WITHDRAW THEIR APPLICATION to build a hog confinement in Rippey:

<https://www.change.org/petitions/prestage-farms-of-iowa-withdraw-your-application-to-build-a-hog-confinement-in-rippy-2>

GOAL IS 300 SIGNATURES BY WED! 500 SIGNATURES BY FRI!
Every signature counts! Help us show Prestage that WE ALL MATTER.

Status: MANY THANKS to all of you who took the time to write or call our Greene County supervisors. MANY THANKS to the organizations who stood with us and all the neighbors and residents of Greene Co. who want something better. Unfortunately, the 5000-head Prestage hog confinement application proposed near our home and Farmhouse Life Camp Coyote was approved by the supervisors, even with OVERWHELMING public opposition. It's now in the hands of the DNR who could approve the application this week. But, it's NOT too late to STOP the Prestage confinement from being built!

What you can do:

Prestage needs to know that many, many people don't want them to build in here. Ron Prestage, from the corp office in NC, stated in a Des Moines Register article this Sunday 6/10/12 <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2012306100016> that sometimes they "walk away" from a hog confinement project that isn't right.

Well, this isn't right for us and so many people in Greene County. We want Prestage to "walk away." We want them to withdraw their application. We have enough confinements. Even if you don't live in Greene County, you can still sign the petition because you care about family, friends and what happens in Greene County. Your voice on this issue matters.

Sign the petition to tell Prestage to "walk away." Tell them to WITHDRAW FROM RIPPEY!
<https://www.change.org/petitions/prestage-farms-of-iowa-withdraw-your-application-to-build-a-hog-confinement-in-rippy-2>

Thank you for your help! We really appreciate it!

Chris

FARMHOUSE LIFE

Your Hosts - Chris & Kevin Wilbeck

2244 U Avenue Rippey IA 50235 Greene County USA

(H) 515-436-7041

See us at: www.farmhouselife.com <<http://www.farmhouselife.com/>>

New EPA Report - Iowa DNR Must Improve CAFO Permitting - July 15, 2012

Dear JFAN Supporters,

In response to a lawsuit filed five years ago, the US Environmental Protection Agency released a report on Thursday that said the Iowa Department of Natural Resources must improve its permitting system for large-scale CAFOs.

As part of our community education mission, we are sharing the 7/13/12 *Des Moines Register* article on this new, important development. In addition, at the end of the article, we have included a link to the actual report.

Thank you for all you do,

EPA says DNR is lax on enforcing confinement permits, regulations

http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20120713/NEWS/307130036/EPA-says-DNR-is-lax-on-enforcing-confinement-permits-regulations?archive&nclick_check=1

Iowa's permitting program for large-scale animal agricultural operations is deficient and must make improvements, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency reported on Thursday.

The report found that the state Department of Natural Resources in some cases has not conducted the inspections necessary to determine whether confined animal feeding operations, called CAFOs, need to be permitted and has not issued permits for some operations as required by federal law.

The department also has failed to act on permit violations and does not have adequate penalties in place for those violations.

"As a national leader in beef, swine and poultry production, with roughly 7,000 animal feeding operations, it is imperative that Iowa have an NPDES permitting, compliance and enforcement program that complies with federal law and protects the quality of Iowa's rivers, lakes and streams," said EPA Region 7 Administrator Karl Brooks.

The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, or NPDES, is the EPA program that sets minimum requirements for confinement regulations.

The DNR now has 60 days to offer a formal response outlining how it will correct the problems identified.

A spokesman for Gov. Terry Branstad said Thursday evening that the administration had just learned of the report and was examining the issue. DNR officials couldn't be reached for comment.

The report is the result of a petition filed in 2007 by Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement, the Sierra Club and the Environmental Integrity Project. In their petition, the groups sought to strip the DNR's authority to regulate and enforce federal environmental laws related to livestock farms because they believed it wasn't doing an adequate job.

Five years later, the EPA has validated those concerns, said David Goodner, an organizer for Iowa CCI.

"Basically, it says what we've all known for a long time: that the DNR's enforcement of factory farms in Iowa isn't up to par, and they need to get their act together if they want to be serious about cleaning up our water."

The EPA report identifies eight specific steps the DNR should take to "address its program deficiencies," including more consistent and comprehensive inspections and revisions to the way it enforces the clean-water laws on confined animal feeding operations.

Read the full report here: https://filemanager.capwiz.com/filemanager/filemgr/iowacci/ia_cafo_preliminary_report.pdf

Excellent Article on How Farm Bureau Works – July 23, 2012

Dear Friends,

The Nation recently ran a very interesting article on the American Farm Bureau, which details how it works to keep industrial agriculture dominant. We are sharing it as part of our community education mission. It's well worth the read.

Thank you for all you do,
JFAN Board of Directors

Whose Side Is the American Farm Bureau On?

Ian T. Shearn | July 16, 2012

Published on *The Nation* (<http://www.thenation.com>)

<http://www.thenation.com/print/article/168913/whose-side-american-farm-bureau>

Produced in collaboration with the Food & Environment Reporting Network [1].

The American Farm Bureau, with its 6 million "member families" and carefully cultivated grassroots image, talks a good game. In the pitched battle over US farm policy--with agribusiness giants on one side, and small family farmers, organic and local food advocates and environmentalists on the other--the Farm Bureau positions itself as the voice of the farmer.

"If you know agriculture in this country, it is dominated by family farms, and those are the people who come to our meetings, those are the people who set our policies," claims Mark Maslyn, executive director of the American Farm Bureau Federation's public policy department, a team of twenty-two registered federal lobbyists that spend more than \$2 million annually on a variety of agriculture issues.

But Rolf Christen, a cattle farmer in Missouri who was at one time an enthusiastic member of his local farm bureau's board, tells a different story.

Christen realized that the bureau's "family farmer" talk was cheap when he sought its help battling an industrial scale hog operation with 80,000 animals just up the road from his farm in northern Missouri beginning in 1993. The waste from the facility created a sickening, eye-watering stench that seeped across the land and into the homes of Christen and his neighbors, starting what would be an epic battle against Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that continues to this day. [2]

At that time, Christen had become the leader of local resistance to the CAFO, then owned by Premium Standard Farms. He organized town meetings and lobbied elected officials to fight Premium Standard. But he hadn't counted on also fighting his local Farm Bureau, which he had joined as a young farmer in 1983, even getting involved with state legislative issues. When it came to this fight, the Farm Bureau sided with Premium Standard and cut Christen and his small farmer friends loose.

"All of a sudden laws were changed in the state in order to make it easier for [Premium Standard], and that's where the Farm Bureau and I quickly parted ways," said Christen. Then, and to this day, Christen says, the "Farm Bureau has always supported the industry...and not the small farmers."

How had this happened? Missouri had become a popular destination for the pork industry. The state produces millions of pigs a year, predominantly for Smithfield Foods, the world's largest pork producer, which purchased Premium Standard in 2007. The rise of the factory farm has been the death knell for the small family farmer in Missouri, as it has across the country. In 1964, there were 62,000 pig farms in Missouri; as of 2007, there were about 3,000, producing roughly the same number of pigs. To these giant hog producers, who depend on the support of the Farm Bureau to keep their efficient model humming, farmers like Christen and their worries about air and water quality are little more than troublemakers.

Although illustrative, Christen's case is not unusual. From California to New York, the Farm Bureau leads the charge for industrial-scale food production. It opposes the labeling of genetically engineered food, animal welfare reform and environmental regulation. In Washington, its well-funded team of lobbyists and lawyers seeks to undermine the federal Clean Water Act and the Clean Air Act, opposing pesticide restrictions and increased scrutiny of greenhouse gas emissions and pollution from CAFOs, like the "farm" up the road from Christen.

The Farm Bureau has sued the EPA, which is trying to limit farm runoff from polluting the Chesapeake Bay. At the same time, the Bureau pushes hard to expand international trade and lobbies for the stream of government subsidies that disproportionately benefit the nation's biggest commodity farm operations and, indirectly, the agribusinesses at the heart of this system.

In Washington, the 2012 Farm Bill has predictably been a top priority for the Farm Bureau lobby team. They have surprised players from both sides of the debate by conceding cuts in traditional subsidies in exchange for a large expansion of subsidized crop insurance that protects against disasters and falling prices at an estimated cost to taxpayers of \$9 billion a year [3]. The tactical, philosophical shift garnered praise even from Farm Bureau adversaries. Nonetheless, it should be noted that crop insurance is a small, but significant piece of Farm Bureau insurance companies' portfolio. In 2011, they collected over \$300 million in crop insurance premiums.

In rural areas, the Farm Bureau grooms compliant political candidates, mostly Republicans; it wields the power to dictate outcomes of legislative elections and appointments to powerful state agriculture committees. Then it influences which farm-related bills become law. Along the way, it has become a close second to Monsanto in lobby expenditures for agriculture-related issues, spending nearly \$6 million in 2011 --all in the name of "farmers."

American Farm Bureau Federation president Bob Stallman was succinct, almost militant in his opening address last year at the group's annual meeting: "We will not stand idly by while opponents of today's American agriculture...try to drag us down...try to bury us in bureaucratic red tape and costly regulation--and try to destroy the most productive and efficient agricultural system in the world," he said.

Stallman could well have been talking about Christen and his neighbors.

* * *

Christen has firsthand experience with the underbelly of that efficient system, because hog-raising is a messy business. Although afforded similar status to farms, CAFOs are more like automobile assembly-line factories, where thousands of animals are birthed, nourished with corn and other grains and supplemented with antibiotics and growth-promoting supplements. They are raised in climate-controlled darkness, confined to pens so cramped they cannot turn around. Hogs produce four times the waste of humans, and these CAFOs produce millions of gallons of manure annually. But in cities, human waste ends up at a sewage treatment plant; in CAFOs, untreated livestock waste is flushed out of confinement buildings into large lagoons, sprayed on fields as fertilizer and then too often migrates into streams and groundwater. In Missouri, this waste not only fouls the air; it has made its way into the rivers, streams and groundwater of surrounding communities.

By 1995, Christen had found two local farmers, Terry Spence and Scott Dye, to join him in his fight. Rebuffed at every turn by the Farm Bureau, elected officials and regulatory agencies, they concluded their only hope was in the courts. So, they went lawyer shopping and found an unlikely candidate in Charlie Speer, a Kansas City attorney, who was once a financial analyst for Ford Motor Company and then represented corporate polluters who had fallen out of favor with the EPA.

The three men provided Speer with evidence of a litany of infractions by Premium Standard's operation--breaches of their lagoons, runoff from spreading manure on the land, burst pipes that sent hog waste flowing into streams, lakes and onto neighboring properties, causing miles of polluted streams and killing fish. Speer would soon discover that Premium Standard operations emit more ammonia and hydrogen sulfide than any other industry in Missouri. Neighboring farmers would later testify about the effects of the ubiquitous odor--burning eyes, noses and throats, gagging, nausea, vomiting and headaches.

In fact, Smithfield and its subsidiaries have been the subject of numerous environmental enforcement actions by the state and the federal government over water and air pollution caused by their hog production factories. From 1997 to 2004, Smithfield was fined \$19 million. Bo Manly, president of Premium Standard at the time and now executive vice president and chief financial officer at Smithfield, admitted in a deposition with Speer that Premium Standard was the most fined agriculture company in Missouri.

"I quickly learned that the ag industry today is like when I was working at Ford Motor," Speer said. "It's cheaper to pay the fines and keep dumping the paint in the creek."

With this kind of evidence in hand, Speer initially thought the case was a slam-dunk and easy money. It would be neither. In 1997, Christen and 60 of his neighbors formed the Citizens Legal Environmental Action Network, or CLEAN. With Speer as their counsel, they filed a federal citizens-action suit against Premium Standard alleging improper waste disposal near their homes. In 1999, the US EPA intervened in the suit, joining CLEAN as a co-plaintiff against Premium Standard.

After the CLEAN suit was filed, Premium Standard spokesman Charlie Arnot weighed in with his view, one that has dominated the national discussion over food: "I think people need to understand that this [CAFO] is part of an ongoing changing structure in agriculture.... It's a different model than we've ever seen before. Is it the right model? Not for everybody. But I think communities that want to continue to sustain a quality rural way of life have to begin to look beyond what we've always looked at in the past."

Christen and CLEAN--fully aware of what that "quality rural way of life" means--emerged victorious in its lawsuit, leading to a 2002 federal consent decree requiring Smithfield and Premium Standard to clean up its act. But enforcement is still being argued in the courts by both sides, and, Christen says, the air at his house still stinks. "It pisses me off that after fifteen years the company still does not even acknowledge that there is

a problem up here," he says.

As it turned out, Christen and his friends weren't an anomaly. Since meeting with the group, Speer has racked up big damage awards on behalf of individual farmers living next to these hog CAFOs throughout Missouri. In 2010, Speer attracted national attention with a record \$11 million verdict awarded to fifteen plaintiffs who had been subject to the foul odors emanating from a Premium Standard pig CAFO in northwestern Missouri. In total, Speer has won over \$25 million for 101 neighbors of CAFOs in eight "odor nuisance suits," as they are called.

To date, Speer has filed nearly 500 odor nuisance complaints in seven states, roughly half in Missouri. In one of Speer's odor cases, it became evident that the Missouri Farm Bureau had more than a philosophical interest in the issue. A Missouri Farm Bureau insurance affiliate (that's right, those family farmers at the Farm Bureau have a big hand in the insurance industry) was the carrier for one of the hog producer defendants. It paid \$550,000 to settle the case, and also paid the defendant's legal bills.

The court battles have become a threat to the bottom line of America's biggest pork producers. In fact, Smithfield Foods threatened to pull all of its hog operations out of Missouri after Speer's \$11 million judgment--and that put the issue front and center for the Missouri Farm Bureau. In response, the Farm Bureau moved the battlefield to its favored arena--the Statehouse floor --with a bill from a friendly legislator the bureau helped elect. The aim of the bill: to keep all the farmers like Christen from seeking meaningful legal redress against the pollution from CAFO operations.

In the waning days of the 2011 Missouri legislative session, Senate Bill 187 was signed into law, limiting citizens' ability to sue large agribusinesses over the harm their factories inflict on neighboring property owners. The Farm Bureau had been pushing various forms of this bill for years, but with a Republican surge in the 2010 legislative elections and a new crop of freshman legislators, it finally passed. Though its sponsors spun the bill as protection for family farmers, it was, in reality, exactly the opposite. Senate Bill 187 limits the number of times a farmer can sue and caps damages at property value, which of course have decreased after the CAFOs moved in.

Despite its track record, the Farm Bureau insists it has been and always will be the champion of the small farmer and rural America. To those who claim the Farm Bureau has sided squarely with one side, against the interests of many farmers, the Bureau's Maslyn responds, "I'd say they've never been to one of our meetings."

Christen takes issue, as do a growing number of small farmers: "The point is, operators that raise hundreds of thousands of animals in confinement are 'industrial operations' and need to be regulated. And the Farm Bureau is never going to concede to this," he said. "Their argument and scare tactic was and is: If we regulate the 'big' guys, we will have to regulate the 'little guys' also. Soon it will be too late, there will not be any family farmers left. But why would the Farm Bureau worry; they will sell their insurance anyway. The billboard in my town reads: 'You don't have to be a farmer to insure with us.' "

* * *

Christen is referring to that other, lesser-known facet of the Farm Bureau. It's not just a non-profit "farmers organization" but a multi-billion dollar network of for-profit insurance companies, the third-largest insurance group in the United States. Its premiums generated more than \$11 billion last year alone, on top of has assets worth more than \$22 billion. In many states, Missouri among them, members of the Farm Bureau board and the board of its affiliated insurance company are one and the same, sharing office buildings and support staff.

And those 6 million farmers it claims as members? In many states, anyone who signs up for Farm Bureau insurance becomes a member of the Farm Bureau automatically, which explains why the American Farm Bureau Federation boasts 6 million members when the United States has only about 2 million farmers. In Missouri, less than a third of its members are farmers. Nonetheless, all of its 113,000 members pay annual dues, as they do throughout the country, which fuels a potent political machine.

In addition to the American Farm Bureau Federation's twenty-two lobbyists, no fewer than 20 of the state Farm Bureaus, including Missouri, have registered lobbyists in Washington, leading the field of agribusiness lobbyists. Over the past decade, the nation's ten largest agribusiness interests gave \$35 million to Congressional candidates--led by the Farm Bureau, which gave \$16 million, or 45 percent of the total. Farm Bureau PACS donated another \$16 million to state candidates, according to election records.

The Farm Bureau also has a financial interest in agribusiness corporations. In recent years, its insurance affiliates have bought stock in companies like Cargill, ConAgra, Dow Chemical, DuPont, Tyson and Archer

Daniels Midland, all major food industry players. The Southern Farm Bureau Annuity Insurance Co. once owned more than 18,000 shares of Premium Standard stock. It has also grown increasingly concerned about the mounting resistance to the get-big-or-get-out agribusiness model, which has led increasing numbers of farmers and consumers to seek out alternatives.

So the American Farm Bureau has pushed into public relations, spearheading the launch of the U.S. Farmers and Ranchers Alliance, an advertising/social media/PR campaign to paint agriculture in a more favorable light. With an \$11 million annual budget and most of the national commodity groups on board, the big ag-business players are now joining--DuPont, John Deere, Monsanto and BASF.

"Our adversaries are smart and resourceful," said the American Farm Bureau's Stallman, who also heads the Farmers and Ranchers Alliance. "But we're now matching them in using new communications tools, new strategies and new tactics." The group's promotional videos display polished vignettes but they are not filmed inside CAFOs; rather they are shot in sunlit fields of wheat and corn with attractive and articulate family farmers and distributed to partners such as the Discovery network on cable TV. It is the Rockwellian image of the farmer America loves, and one the Farm Bureau uses to pursue public approval for its agenda--and against small farmers like Christen.

Christen, now 58, is still fighting Premium Standard and the Farm Bureau; it has pretty much consumed his life. Now, a 140,000 hog factory is located seven miles south of him. As his original lawsuit drags on, the stench persists. Whether Speer's legal barrage proves to be a game-changer or merely an aggravating blip on the EKG of corporate agriculture has yet to be seen. It's also unclear whether the voices of small farmers, like Christen, will be strong enough to counter the ingrained image of the Farm Bureau as their savior and protector.

"There's only so many times you can tell farmers you're acting in their interest, and then act in the complete opposite manner," says Rhonda Perry, a Missouri farmer and a former Farm Bureau "princess" who runs the Missouri Rural Crisis Center, a grassroots organization supporting family farmers. "So, now they're saying we have to convince the consumers that agriculture is good and this new way of producing animals is really the best way."

Then she sighs.

"As long as you have money to perpetuate the myth, the war is going to go on and on and on...."

Watch Missouri farmer Rolf Christen discuss his frustrations with the Farm Bureau:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kc4YyLCYTZA&feature=player_embedded

Lauren Hasler, a freelance journalist, contributed to this report. It was produced in collaboration with the Food & Environment Reporting Network [2], an independent non-profit news organization producing investigative reporting on food, agriculture and environmental health.

Administrative Assistant Wanted for JFAN – July 24, 2012

Administrative Assistant Wanted for JFAN

JFAN is now hiring for the position of Administrative Assistant to the Executive Director.

This is a part-time paid position that helps support JFAN's smooth functioning in a variety of important ways, including:

- Monitoring CAFO development weekly with the Iowa DNR
- Preparing a variety of mailings
- Assisting with the annual meeting held in October
- Delivering, picking up, and monitoring newsletter distribution
- Conducting research on a variety of projects, as needed
- And other assorted duties as various projects arise

We're looking for someone who is comfortable working independently, dependable, responsible, and cares about JFAN's mission. The hours are flexible and vary with projects, averaging about 10-20 hours per month. Applicants should be very comfortable working in Word with some basic experience in Excel.

Please email a resume and letter of interest to:

jfan@lisco.com

Attention Diane Rosenberg

Or mail to: P.O. Box 811, Fairfield, IA 52556

This position is immediately available.

Questions? Call 641-209-6600

Jim Hightower - JFAN Annual Meeting! - September 14, 2012

Jefferson County Farmers & Neighbors, Inc. ANNUAL MEETING

JIM HIGHTOWER!

- **New York Times Best-selling Author**
- **Former two-term Texas Commissioner of Agriculture**
- **Nationally Syndicated Radio Commentator and Newspaper Columnist**

**What Will It Take?
Taking Back Our Food and Agriculture**

**Wednesday, October 3
7:30 - 9:30 pm**

**Fairfield Arts & Convention Center
200 N. Main Street, Fairfield, Iowa**

"If Will Rogers and Mother Jones had a baby, Jim Hightower would be that rambunctious child - mad as hell, with a sense of humor." - Molly Ivins

Fiery, captivating and insightfully funny - Jim Hightower is an outspoken critic of industrial animal production.

He will give us the lowdown on what is needed to change from our present environmentally destructive system of industrial food production to a safe, sane, and sustainable system.

JFAN President **Jim Rubis** will provide an update of JFAN activities. Plus questions and answers with Jim Hightower at the conclusion of the meeting.

First 500 attendees will receive a **FREE** copy of *CAFO: The Tragedy of Industrial Animal Factories*. Both hard cover and soft cover (without illustrations) will be available.

Admission is free. A \$5 donation helps JFAN protect Jefferson County's quality of life.

Co-sponsored with our community partners: Solar-powered KRUU-100.1 FM, Sustainable Living Coalition, Sierra Club Leopold Group, Radish Magazine, and Little Village Magazine

Thank you to all our corporate sponsors: Radiance Dairy; David Sykes, P.C. Attorney at Law; Central Park Home Furnishings and Futon Shop; Maharishi Ayurveda Products Int.; and Arc Films.

Find out how you can become a corporate sponsor. 641-209-6600.

**JEFFERSON COUNTY FARMERS & NEIGHBORS, INC.
www.jfaniowa.org · 641-209-6600 · jfan@lisco.com**

Don't Miss It! Jim Hightower - October 3! - September 20, 2012

JIM HIGHTOWER!

at JFAN Annual Meeting, Wednesday, October 5

"Jim has the rare skill of being able to get people from different perspectives to really listen and think about his ideas. His humor disarms opponents and his policy proposals inject a strong amount of common sense into debates that have become polarized by stereotypes." - Rural Sociological Society

WHAT WILL IT TAKE?

Taking Back Our Food and Agriculture

Wednesday, October 3

7:30 - 9:30 pm

Fairfield Arts & Convention Center

with

JIM HIGHTOWER

- New York Times Best-selling Author**
- Former two-term Texas Commissioner of Agriculture**
- Nationally Syndicated Radio Commentator and Newspaper Columnist**

Jim Hightower on transforming an industrial ag food production system into one that is safe, sane, and sustainable.

How can we **really** make this shift? Get the lowdown from Jim!

JFAN President **Jim Rubis** will provide an update of JFAN activities. Plus a Q&A with Jim Hightower at the conclusion of the meeting.

The first 500 attendees will receive a **FREE** copy of *CAFO: The Tragedy of Industrial Animal Factories* - the book that was sent to over 900 state officials this June. Both hard cover and soft cover (without illustrations) will be available.

Admission is free. A \$5 donation helps JFAN protect Jefferson County's quality of life.

Co-sponsored with our community partners: Solar-powered KRUU-100.1 FM, Sustainable Living Coalition, Sierra Club Leopold Group, Radish Magazine, and Little Village Magazine

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Find out how you can be a corporate sponsor. 641-209-6600.

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"Rousing and Inspirational" - September 26, 2012

"Jim Hightower delivered a rousing and inspirational speech to supporters of WMNF Community Radio. Hightower was both hilarious and poignant. Not only is he dynamic 'on stage', but he is also a kind and congenial guest speaker."

- WMNF Radio

See Jim Hightower, the Country's #1 Populist Warrior, In Person!

Find out why tens of thousands of people flock to hear this perceptive, exciting, witty national figure every year!

WHAT WILL IT TAKE?

Taking Back Our Food and Agriculture

Wednesday, October 3

7:30 – 9:30 pm

Fairfield Arts & Convention Center

With

JIM HIGHTOWER

- New York Times Best-selling Author**
- Former two-term Texas Commissioner of Agriculture**
- Nationally Syndicated Radio Commentator and Newspaper Columnist**

Plus

- **JIM RUBIS**, JFAN President, on JFAN's activities
- Q&A with **JIM HIGHTOWER**
- **FREE** - *CAFO: The Tragedy of Industrial Animal Factories* – for all attendees

Admission is free. A \$5 donation helps JFAN protect Jefferson County's quality of life.

Co-sponsored with our community partners: Solar-powered KRUU-100.1 FM, Sustainable Living Coalition, Sierra Club Leopold Group, Radish Magazine, and Little Village Magazine

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Two Great Interviews – September 27, 2012

This Week Only!

Pick up the special edition newspaper

Fairfield EcoNews

Featuring an in-depth interview with the country's #1 populist

JIM HIGHTOWER

Packed with articles about Fairfield's sustainable community, **Fairfield EcoNews** is being published this week only while the *Fairfield Weekly Reader* is on vacation.

Available at all *Fairfield Weekly Reader* pick up locations.

***** PLUS *****

JIM HIGHTOWER Interviewed on KRUU-100.1 FM

Hear James Moore's interview with Jim Hightower on the Tanner & Moore show and Planet Erstwild

TODAY Thursday, 7:00 pm

Friday, 2:10 pm

Monday 7:00 am

WHAT WILL IT TAKE?
Taking Back Our Food and Agriculture

Wednesday, October 3
7:30 – 9:30 pm
Fairfield Arts & Convention Center

with

JIM HIGHTOWER

- New York Times Best-selling Author**
- Former two-term Texas Commissioner of Agriculture**
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Not Debatable – October 1, 2012

You can always tape the presidential debate....

But you can't tape

JIM HIGHTOWER LIVE

at the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center!

Be prepared to enjoy a rousing and rollicking talk by the modern-day Johnny Appleseed of progressive populism this Wednesday, October 3 at 7:30 pm.

At the same time, be part of a strong community statement that says CAFO expansion is not acceptable in Jefferson County.

Your attendance at JFAN's Annual Meeting is a simple yet powerful tool that discourages CAFO development in Jefferson County. When we pack the house – the local factory farming industry takes notice. It says, 'We care.'

Can't record the debate? We'll make this easy! JFAN is taping the debate and can provide you with a copy. Contact us at 641-209-6600 or email jfan@lisco.com.

PLUS

Come early and hear **TRUCKSTOP SOUVENIER!**

The incredibly talented singer/songwriter team of Lauryn Shapter and Dennis James will perform their original blend of traditional folk/country/bluesy/roots music **beginning at 7:20 pm!**

WHAT WILL IT TAKE?
Taking Back Our Food and Agriculture

**Wednesday, October 3
7:30 – 9:30 pm
Fairfield Arts & Convention Center**

With

JIM HIGHTOWER

- New York Times Best-selling Author**
- Former two-term Texas Commissioner of Agriculture**
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Tonight! Paul and Ringo Join Jim Hightower – October 3, 2012

Ok, not in person, but.....

Tonight only, for every \$25 donation to JFAN, you'll receive a copy of the 1-1/2 hour "Change Begins Within" Benefit Concert DVD, thanks to a generous grant from the David Lynch Foundation.

If you want to donate \$50, we'll give you two DVD's. In fact, for each \$25 of your donation, we'll provide you with a DVD.

It's a perfect way to support JFAN and provide a special gift to a family member or friend.

Of course, **Admission is Free** to the JFAN Annual Meeting.

Don't Miss JIM HIGHTOWER LIVE Tonight!

**WHAT WILL IT TAKE?
Taking Back Our Food and Agriculture**

**Wednesday, October 3
7:30 – 9:30 pm
Fairfield Arts & Convention Center**

Come at 7:20 to hear Truckstop Souvenir!

(Tape the debate!)

Come early to get a good seat!

Co-sponsored with our community partners: Solar-powered KRUU-100.1 FM, Sustainable Living Coalition, Sierra Club Leopold Group, Radish Magazine, and Little Village Magazine

Thank you to all our corporate sponsors: Maharishi Ayurveda Products, Int.; Radiance Dairy; Fairfield Accounting Services; David Sykes, P.C. Attorney at Law; Central Park Gallery of the Arts; Arc Films, Hawthorne Direct; The Organic and Non-GMO Report; MyTherapyCompany - Michael and Shweta McBurnie; John Newton - HealthBeyondBelief.com; Jim and Ginger Belilove; Global ID Group; and SolPowerPeople

DVD's of Jim Hightower at JFAN Annual Meeting – October 7, 2012

DVD's of Jim Hightower Presentation Available

JFAN's Annual Meeting with Jim Hightower was a terrific success last Wednesday! With a SRO crowd, Hightower delivered a rousing, insightful talk that kept everyone laughing. Thank you to everyone who came to the meeting.

If you couldn't make it on Wednesday – or if you want to hear Jim again - we are making DVD's of Hightower's talk that will be on sale for \$10 each, our cost. If you would like them mailed to you, then please add \$4 to cover shipping and mailing.

(Please note the debate DVD's were provided to us at a dramatic discount.)

If you would like a copy, please email jfan@lisco.com, and we'll let you know as soon as they are ready.

We also got some terrific news coverage of the JFAN event. Please enjoy this KTVO-TV spot that aired that evening:

<http://www.heartlandconnection.com/news/story.aspx?id=809184>

Also, the *Fairfield Ledger* did a wonderful piece on the JFAN Annual Meeting. The article is attached.

Thank you for all that you do,
JFAN Board of Directors

Opportunity for Public Comment to EPA about Iowa DNR – October 9, 2012

Opportunity for Public Comment to EPA about Iowa DNR

Iowans have two opportunities to let the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) know how they feel about the way the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) regulates CAFOs.

The EPA issued a report in July that criticized the way in which the DNR regulated water pollution from CAFOs. The EPA faulted the DNR on several points (see below). The DNR responded in September with a number of action steps.

Both reports can be found at www.epa.gov/region7/water

What You Can Do:

1. The EPA is currently taking written public comments on the DNR's response to the EPA report. Written comments should be sent by email to pollard.stephen@epa.gov or mailed and postmarked on or before **October 17, 2012** to

Stephen Pollard
Water Enforcement Branch
EPA Region 7
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, KS 66101

2. The EPA is also holding a public meeting on **Thursday, October 18 at 7:00 pm in Des Moines** in order to hear directly from Iowa residents about the problems with CAFOs and how CAFOs can be better regulated to protect people and the environment.

Meeting Location:
Heritage Rooms A and B
State Historical Building
600 East Locust Street, Des Moines

The public is invited. Representatives from JFAN will be attending this meeting.

Background:

The EPA conducted an investigation of the DNR after three environmental organizations – Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement, Sierra Club, and the Environmental Integrity Project – threatened to sue the EPA for not enforcing the federal Clean Water Act in Iowa.

The Clean Water Act requires a factory farm to have a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit to operate. It provides an additional level of oversight. Currently only cattle feedlots in Iowa are required to have NPDES permits. This only comprises less than 5% of all of Iowa's industrial livestock, according to the most recent USDA figures.

In its July 12 report, the EPA faulted the DNR on several points including:

- Not issuing required Clean Water Act permits to CAFOs
- Not having an acceptable system to determine which factories need permits
- Not having an adequate inspection program
- Failing to act in cases of CAFO Clean Water Act violations
- Not following its own response policy in nearly 50% of the cases the EPA reviewed
- Failing to assess adequate penalties for Clean Water Act violations.

The DNR was required to issue a response within 60 days. On September 11, it provided a response with the following action steps:

- Commencing new rulemaking, beginning November 1, 2012, to ensure compliance with the Clean Water Act
- Requesting additional funding from the State Legislature for 13 new full time field staff
- Bringing Iowa's regulatory program up to federal standards by changing existing protocols and procedures

As reported in the *JFAN Fall/Winter 2012 Newsletter*, Tarah Heinzen, attorney for the Environmental Integrity Project, said, "Permitting rules are a long overdue first step, but they will not lead to real improvements in water quality if the DNR continues to assume that the state's factory farms are meeting its 'zero discharge' standard. The DNR's work plan does not adequately address the EPA's finding that the DNR cannot even currently identify confinements in need of these permits. Clearly rules alone will not be enough."

Iowa CCI's Adam Mason was quoted as saying, "The proof is in the pudding. We'll wait and see what the rulemaking looks like, if it is just lip service – weak but enough to satisfy the EPA – or a good rule."

Additional funding for new full time field staff would have to be approved by the State Legislature and signed into law by Governor Branstad during the upcoming legislative session.

New Expansion at KK Finishers - Public Hearing Set – December 13, 2012

KK Finishers Tries to Expand Again December 26 Public Hearing Scheduled

JFAN has learned that Ryan Robertson has submitted a new CAFO and Master Matrix application for a 1200-head expansion to KK Finishers, located just north of Pleasant Plain in Penn Township.

This is the same facility Robertson attempted to expand last year. That application was subsequently withdrawn when the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors determined the Master Matrix didn't meet the minimum score of 440 points.

KK Finishers currently contains 2490 hogs. The expansion would add a new building and bring the total number of hogs to 3690 head.

In addition, it would bring the total number of hogs within a one-mile radius of Pleasant Plain city limits to 8460.

The Jefferson County Board of Supervisors has scheduled a **Public Meeting for Wednesday, December 26 at 7:00 pm**. This meeting is open to the public, and the community is encouraged to attend and make comments on the expansion. Comments may also be submitted in writing to the Board of Supervisors by the

end of the day on December 26.

The Board of Supervisors will be scoring the Master Matrix on **Monday, December 17 at their 9:00 am weekly board meeting**. JFAN will be in attendance. This meeting is also open to the public.

JFAN currently is reviewing the Master Matrix and Manure Management Plan (MMP).

Update on Brighton Finishers

JFAN recently learned that the 1200-head expansion to Brighton Finishers on Germanville Road, also owned by Ryan Robertson, has been approved, culminating a nearly yearlong process.

JFAN contested the validity of Brighton Finishers' MMP last December as the field residue levels observed by JFAN Board Member Francis Thicke did not match the figures indicated on the MMP. Thicke photographed the fields and filed a complaint with the DNR.

The DNR forwarded the complaint to the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) of the US Department of Agriculture, and members of the NRCS were to evaluate the fields in question. However, Robertson refused to have the NRCS examine his property, and kept extending the permit application through this summer's growing season.

In September, the DNR conditionally approved the manure management and construction permit, with the stipulation that before Robertson could apply any manure to his fields, he must submit to an NRCS inspection.

Robertson finally allowed the NRCS to come to the land in late fall, and the field officer found that the residue measurements were very close to those indicated on the MMP. Brighton Finishers was given the final OK for the expansion.

In JFAN's opinion, the DNR did not address the original complaint, that Robertson was out of compliance in 2011 with his MMP, and the delay allowed by the DNR enabled Robertson to eventually come into compliance after the 2012 growing season.

It is our opinion that the CAFO should have been denied by the DNR last winter and punitive action taken on the complaint.

In October, JFAN presented the handling of this expansion to representatives of the Environmental Protection Commission who were investigating the DNR's lack of enforcement of the Federal Clean Water Act.

Public Hearing Location for KK Finishers – December 14, 2012

The KK Finishers Public Hearing will be held in the Courtroom on the second floor of the Jefferson County Courthouse on Wednesday, December 26 at 7:00 pm

The Supervisors weekly board meeting will held this Monday, December 17 at 9:00 am in the Supervisors Office on the first floor of the Courthouse.

Yesterday's announcement omitted the location of the Public Hearing. We apologize for any confusion that may have caused.

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This is the same facility Robertson attempted to expand last year. That application was subsequently withdrawn when the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors determined the Master Matrix didn't meet the minimum score of 440 points.

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The Jefferson County Board of Supervisors has scheduled a **Public Hearing for Wednesday, December 26 at 7:00 pm in the Courtroom of the Jefferson County Courthouse**. This meeting is open to the public, and the community is encouraged to attend and make comments on the expansion. Comments may also be submitted in writing to the Board of Supervisors by the end of the day on December 26.

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TONIGHT - Public Hearing for KK Finishers - December 26, 2012

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7:00 pm
Courtroom, Jefferson County Courthouse

From the December 14 JFAN email:

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Good News! Supervisors Give Thumbs Down to KK Finishers Expansion – December 30, 2012

K Finishers Update:

Board of Supervisors Do Not Recommend Approval of CAFO Expansion

At the Wednesday, December 26 Public Hearing, the Jefferson Board of Supervisors voted to not recommend approval of the 1200-head expansion to KK Finishers, a 2490-head CAFO owned and operated by Ryan Robertson just north of the city of Pleasant Plain. They scored the Master Matrix at 400 points, deducting 40 points for questions they felt were not adequately answered.

Several JFAN board members attended the public hearing and made comments disputing the validity of points taken on four of the questions. A neighbor who owns an herb farm near the proposed expansion also expressed concerns over the expansion.

JFAN attended all meetings of the Board of Supervisors where the Master Matrix to KK Finishers was examined and presented several concerns with points taken. The supervisors had many questions of their own, as well.

JFAN would like to thank the supervisors for their thorough review of the Master Matrix and for their recommendation to not approve the expansion of the CAFO to the DNR.

The DNR has the final say on whether or not the expansion to KK Finishers will be approved. Considering their approval of the Brighton Finishers expansion this fall, there is no guarantee that the DNR will deny the application for KK Finishers. JFAN will continue to monitor this situation with the DNR.

Below is the most recent article from *The Fairfield Ledger* about the public meeting and subsequent decision by the supervisors.

From the December 27, 2012 Fairfield Ledger:

<http://fairfield-ia.villagesoup.com/p/supervisors-not-recommending-approval-of-new-hog-facility-plan/941978>

Supervisors not recommending approval of new hog facility plan

By Diane Vance

The Jefferson County Board of Supervisors will recommend not approving KK Finisher's construction application to the Department of Natural Resources for building a new 1,200-head deep-pit swine finisher barn at an existing hog facility north of Pleasant Plain.

At a public hearing Wednesday night attended by about a dozen people, the supervisors gave the amended Dec. 19 Master Matrix a score of 400 points. To pass, the matrix needs a minimum of 440 points out of 880. The application was submitted and amended meeting the minimum 440 points.

A few members of the public spoke; two people asked the supervisors not to recommend the application to the DNR and one neighbor pointed out why expanding the existing 2,200-head hog confinement feeding operation could economically hurt the neighbor's farming and gardening operations.

"We're open to the public for comment," said supervisor chairman Steve Burgmeier. "At some point, we'd like written comments submitted to forward to DNR."

Diane Rosenberg, executive director of Jefferson County Farmers and Neighbors Inc., and Jim Rubis provided written comments and spoke to the board.

"After reviewing the Master Matrix and its revision, it appears to me it does not deserve to be approved," said Rubis. "The applications were turned in with the minimum allowable scores. Very few of the points applied for [by owner Ryan Robertson] have any explanation nor do they establish or defend why they are justified.

"Based on this cavalier attitude, and Mr. Robertson's history of poor compliance, violation of rules, and incorrect or even false representation of matrix points both this year and last, it is hard to believe that he will

take seriously the construction and operation rules that are in place to protect the environment and the neighbors to his operation," said Rubis.

No one attending the public hearing spoke on behalf of KK Finisher. Burgmeier said Robertson was in Mexico, attending a long-planned Christmas family vacation.

"I thought Pinnacle would be here," said supervisor Dick Reed.

Pinnacle of Iowa Falls is an agronomic and environmental consulting firm hired by Robertson to oversee his business. At Wednesday morning's regular supervisors meeting, John Everly, a manure management and soil-sampling specialist from Pinnacle, attended and addressed questions about the amended Master Matrix submitted by KK Finisher.

"Since he was in town this morning and hung around until noon, I thought he'd get a hotel room and come to this public hearing," said Reed.

Rosenberg went through the matrix, highlighting points taken for items that were questionable.

Points taken by KK Finisher for being an additional 250-foot distance away from the closest water source above the minimum 500-foot requirement awards five points.

"The measurement is within 1.29 feet as determined by Pinnacle's measurements and within 5 feet from the creek to the west of the proposed confinement building according to DNR measurements last year," said Rosenberg.

KK Finisher had applied for a construction permit for this same site a year ago and the Master Matrix at the time failed.

"I'm asking the county engineer take a hard measurement on site," said Rosenberg. "In 2005, there was a situation with Mr. Robertson about locating in a 100-year flood plain and those measurements were off by 50 feet. That was discovered through infrared aerial views. There's been no opportunity to measure this distance accurately yet."

The matrix had 20 points for a required landscaping plan. A buffer of fast-growing and slow-growing trees planted in three rows is required to protect air and water quality at the confinement building.

"I find only a scant plan, it provides no information about the species of trees, the number or placement of trees, and there's no plan about maintaining the trees through our cold winters and conditions such as the summer's drought," said Rosenberg.

She pointed to the 10 points taken for an additional 50 feet distance above the minimum requirement for land application of manure to the closest well.

"At this morning's meeting, we learned those 10 points were taken based on recent aerial maps," she said. "Older maps need to be consulted to see if uncapped wells are in the vicinity."

A required emergency action plan was awarded five points, and Rosenberg said it was not a sufficient plan. "This matrix came in at 440 points and subtracting 40 points means it fails," said Rosenberg. "KK Finisher didn't take enough care to come in higher than the minimum required."

"Mr. Robertson has a history of complaints, and he was able to take points for no administrative orders in the past five years only because the DNR did not address a complaint brought by Francis Thicke last year," she said.

"Francis brought up Robertson was not in compliance with manure levels spread on fields. A higher [sic] residue than allowed was there, creating more run-offs."

"The DNR asked Natural Resources Conservation Services to evaluate the fields, but for months, Robertson would not allow them onto his fields," said Rosenberg. "Finally, after this growing season, were they allowed in — after the evidence had time to dissipate."

"It is JFAN's opinion that considering Robertson's past actions, we feel no leniency should be given in scoring his Master Matrix. It is our opinion the supervisors should not recommend a pass to the DNR."

Rosenberg thanked the supervisors for working with the public and JFAN to have input and for bringing in the DNR and Pinnacle.

A neighboring farmer to the hog facility said the smell level currently is acceptable, but adding more than 1,000 hogs might hurt the farm's business because volunteers and visitors come out to the farm to help garden and purchase herbs.

Burgmeier said Rosenberg's concerns were the same as the board of supervisors.

"If he took the points, it's up to him to prove and support his claims," he said.

Burgmeier questioned the wells item, the emergency and landscaping plans and measurements used.

"I don't think he's even measured the distances," said Burgmeier

"It wouldn't be hard with a building this size to be off by a few feet," said Reed, a lifelong building contractor.

"I see this as a two-way street. I like to see people productive; I like to see people making money," said Reed. "I agree we need to take deductions from the score on some of these items."

The supervisors unanimously voted to score the matrix with 400 points and recommend the DNR not approve the application for reasons stated in the scoring process

"I'll ask the auditor to send the public comments to the DNR by the deadline, Jan. 4," said Burgmeier.