

# ❖ REPORT CARD ❖

Volume 14 Number 2

FALL 2005

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Have you ordered your agriculture plates? See page 4.



**MIGHT YOU BE INTERESTED IN SERVING ON CFA'S BOARD? MEETINGS ARE SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY, MARCH, MAY, SEPTEMBER & NOVEMBER. MEETINGS ARE FROM 11:00 TO 2:00. LUNCH IS PROVIDED. THE LOCATION**

**CHANGES, SO CONTACT:**

**Bette**

**970-881-2902**

**if you would be interested in attending.**

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## 20% Chance of Flurries Statue Dedicated at CSU

Eight years of meetings with prominent leaders, persuasive telephone conversations and meetings have culminated in a heroic-size sculpture, honoring Colorado's farmers and ranchers. On Sept. 23, "Twenty Percent Chance of Flurries" was dedicated at a ceremony on the Colorado State University campus in Fort Collins. "We've met with many state leaders, business professionals and prominent ranchers to make this happen," said Don Ament, commissioner of agriculture. "The heritage of our state was built on many generations of farmers and ranchers. This statue is a tribute to all those hardworking men and women."

Standing 16' tall and 11' long, the statue depicts a rancher battling the elements to rescue a young calf from a springtime blizzard. "The weather forecast was a 20 percent chance of flurries, but Mother Nature can be unpredictable," said Sculptor Chris Navarro. The statue depicts a rancher heading back to the barn in a snow storm with a weakened calf. "It has always been an inner drive of every farmer and rancher to do whatever it takes to save his crop and livestock. For not only is it his livelihood, it is his way of life." states Navarro.

The idea for the statue originated in 1998 from a trip to Calgary by Jim Rubingh, director of the markets division at CDA. "I saw a statue honoring their farmers and ranchers and was rather struck by it," said Rubingh. "After returning, we held a competition of artists and had a panel that chose Chris Navarro as the sculptor. Since then, we raised funds by selling about 75 maquettes, which are miniature versions of the statue."

In addition, six primary donors contributed to the project: Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc.; Colorado Agricultural Development Authority; Colorado Foundation for Agriculture; Colorado State University; Monfort Family Foundation and Safeway, Inc. Other individuals and organizations who contributed to the statue by purchasing a maquette were: Agland, Inc., Donald D. & Patricia A. Ament, American Pride Coop, David R. Ames, Sue Anschutz-Rodgers, Robert R. Baney, Norm & Donna Brown, Maggie Alexander Burgess, In memory of Clarence Bussman, Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Cavanaugh, Centennial Bank Holdings, Inc., Edith Clarke, Colorado Cattlemen's Association, Colorado Corn Administrative



Committee, Colorado Farm Bureau, Colorado Horse Development Authority, Colorado Livestock Association, Colorado's County Commissioners, ConAgra Beef Company, Coors Brewing Company, Harry Cummins, Robert F. & Janet R. Datteri, Frederick Deiss, Jim & Kristie Docheff and Family, Double D Ranch, Ben & Laurie Duke, Excel Corporation, Patricia L. Farnes, Flying W Ranch, In memory of David L. Ford, Russell Freeman, John D. Garber, Guenzi Farms, Inc., Ed & Marilyn Hansen, Willis J. & Shirley Holland, Horton Cattle Companies, Inc., Mrs. Paul Hoshiko, Charles A. Hudson, Dale & Suzanne Johnson, Tom & Becky Kourlis, Bill & Rita Larson, Carol & Stan Leshner, Neil & Connie Lindeman, Longmont Dairy Farm, Inc., Robert G. McLavey, Meadow Gold Dairy, Danny & Lucy Meyring, Linda & Randy Mills, Glen and Patricia Murray, Steven & Dorothy Myers, National Western Stock Show, Olathe State Bank, Barb & Tony Pariso, Ira & Marcia Paulin, Karl & Lue Ramstetter, Earl, Debbie, Keith & Kenny Raymond, Royal Crest Dairy, Inc., Jim & Bobbi Rubingh, Ashley Schildknecht, Tim Schultz, Bill Smith & Karen L'Allemand, Mike Spearman, Dr. and Mrs. C. Stanton Green, Basil & Leo Stieb, Byron & Shirley Swedberg, Frederick & Melissa Trask, Bruce S. Wagner and Gail Diann Witteveld.

# E-NEWSLETTER

CFA



Connecting Land & People

FOOD, FIBER & NATURAL RESOURCE EDUCATION

An Electronic Resource for Colorado Teachers

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## NPS Classroom Grants Available



NPS? The Colorado Nonpoint Source (NPS) program deals with water pollution that occurs when precipitation interacts with pollutants and carries them into our stream, rivers and lakes or leaches them into the ground water. You might think of it as polluted runoff rather than a direct flow of pollution from something like a pipe. Grants of up to \$5,000 are available to support NPS education, information and other relevant projects. Visit <http://www.npsc Colorado.com> to find out more.

## What's a Watershed?

You're sitting in one now! The Watershed Information Network presents information and links to help students, teachers and the public understand what a watershed is and how our activities impact water quality. Check out <http://www.ctic.purdue.edu/KYW/glossary/whatisaws.html>

## Ag for Life

Agriculture isn't just tractors and cowboys. Ag For Life (<http://agforlife.com>) presents information about the varied, and often well-paying, career opportunities available in agriculture, food and life sciences. Resources include materials for students, educators and professionals.



## Educating the Biotechnology Workforce

Bio-link enhances and expands biology and biotechnology education programs by providing cutting edge professional development, curriculum (free lesson plans), a virtual library, laboratory and other classroom ready resources. To find out more, visit <http://www.bio-link.org>



## Register Now for the 2005 Colorado Science Teachers Convention

To be held November 18, 2005 at the Denver Merchandise Mart, this annual event features a variety of speakers and presentations and resources—a super event for science teachers. To find out more, visit <http://www.dmn.s.org/main/en/General/AboutTheMuseum/News/Story/cscRegistration.htm>

## Renewable Energy



The Colorado Renewable Energy Forum (CREF) is an organization of agricultural, energy, financial and legal professionals, local communities and advocate organizations committed to the development of renewable energy. They can be found on the web at <http://www.workinglandscapes.com>. They publish the e-newsletter, Tony's Newsletter, which can be joined by e-mailing [frank@workinglandscapes.com](mailto:frank@workinglandscapes.com). The current issue contains information about Ethanol, the Harvesting Energy Tour in Southeastern Colorado and the San Luis Valley, and Colorado Amendment 37.

## Running on French Fries?

Biodiesel, which can be made from restaurant waste, is taking hold in Colorado. Research at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) Golden, Colorado is indicating that Blue Sun B20 biodiesel can outperform conventional diesel and other B-20 blends significantly in terms of emissions reductions, particularly the reduction of nitrogen oxides (NO), a criteria EPA pollutant that contributes to the formation of ozone. Blue Sun B20 is the only B20 available in the United States that research shows reduces NO. To find out more about Blue Sun Biodiesel, visit <http://www.bluesunbiodiesel.com>. The University of Colorado is making diesel fuel from dining hall waste (<http://www.yesmagazine.org/article.asp?ID=1011>) and also taking the technology to other countries. For background and biodiesel educational resources, visit [http://journeytoforever.org/biodiesel\\_link.html](http://journeytoforever.org/biodiesel_link.html)

## Colorado Foundation for Agriculture Educational Materials Now Available Online

The Colorado Foundation for Agriculture is making most of its materials available free to educators in Colorado. Orders can be placed at [http://www.growingyourfuture.com/order\\_form.html](http://www.growingyourfuture.com/order_form.html).



## NEW THIS YEAR:

**E-NEWSLETTER** about Colorado agriculture and natural resource topics. We send the e-newsletter to educators three times a year - September, December and March. You can subscribe to receive the e-newsletter on CFA's website: [www.growingyourfuture.com](http://www.growingyourfuture.com). If you would like to include information in the newsletter, please submit it to us the month before distribution.

## ORDER ONLINE

You can also order Colorado Readers in bulk for Farm Days, Water Festivals, County Fairs and other events. You can call us to request them or you can order them online at [www.growingyourfuture.com](http://www.growingyourfuture.com). Just go to the online store.

## READERS HAVE A NEW LOOK

Did you notice that the Colorado Readers have a new look? Every couple of years we try and change the look of the Readers. This year the Readers are a larger size. We have listed in the Reader the Content Standards addressed in each issue. Previously this information was in the Teacher's guide. We have also included CSAP type questions in each issue.

# Educating About Ag Through Hands-On



The Food, Fiber and More Summer Agriculture in the Classroom Institute provides many opportunities for hands-on learning activities. We could tell you about the learning events of the Summer Institute but we thought you might be interested in reading some of the attendees' comments, written to their sponsor, about their experience.

Ann Bushroe from Fitzsimmons Middle School wrote:

I want to thank you for sponsoring my attendance at the 2005 Summer Agriculture Institute in Steamboat Springs. The week was full of exciting, informative and engaging activities. Before this week, I had absolutely no experience with farming or ranching. Although I am certainly no expert, this week has taught me so much about this important industry and I now have many ideas of how to bring this new information back into my classroom.

The most surprising aspect of my week in Steamboat was the amount of vocabulary that I learned. I can now listen in on a conversation involving ranching and understand a good portion of what is being said. I felt like I began to learn a foreign language this past week! Some of the terms and expressions that I learned are: to run 100 head of cattle, to drive cattle, a cow-calf unit, to put up hay, a conservation easement, a head gate, bulling, to turn out the bulls, a heifer, a 1st calf heifer, a steer, a bull and of course, a cow. These were all words that did not have the same meaning for me a week ago.

Aside from the important vocabulary that I learned, I was also fortunate enough to visit many wonderful working ranches in the area. Visiting the ranches gave me the context to understand what raising cattle and hay means to the ranchers themselves and to the country as a whole. I never truly realized how intimate the relationship is between a rancher and his or her land. The people we met were very patient and willing to share their knowledge and their lifestyles with us at each ranch we visited. This experiential component to the week-long institute was invaluable, especially to

someone like me who did not have much prior knowledge coming into the class.

Overall, this experience was truly one of a kind. The best part about my week was that I was able to meet so many incredible people all over the Steamboat Springs area. I am grateful to all of them and to you for allowing me to participate in this wonderful learning experience.

Elizabeth Alexander wrote her sponsor:

It is with great appreciation that I write this note of sincere thanks for sponsoring my participation in the "Food, Fiber and More" class. This was one of the best classes I have ever taken. It was thought provoking, fun, interesting and applicable to my classroom.

I am so much more knowledgeable about agriculture and related agricultural issues in the state of Colorado. I feel confident that I can bring what I've learned to my 5th graders in Brighton so that they might come to know and value agriculture as I do.

My biggest "BFO" (blinding flash of the obvious) was learning how hard farmers and ranchers work to take good care of the land and their animals. The use of research and technology to preserve water, improve production, restrict herbicide and pesticide use truly surprised me. I had no idea agriculture was so complex.

One understanding I am eager to share with my 5th graders is a deeper appreciation of farmers/ranchers and all the work that goes into maintaining their operations. I know my students have no idea how dependent they are on agriculture. By using the lesson ideas from the class, I hope to make them aware of this dependency so that they may learn to value it. As they see it as valuable, then hopefully their attitudes and actions will change to reflect their new understanding.

Your contribution to this program is immeasurable. Like teachers, you are effecting the lives of thousands of people. I am very grateful for your support as well as for your efforts to promote agriculture in the classroom.



# OVER 1930 LICENSE PLATES HAVE HIT THE ROAD

Want an inexpensive, easy way to show your support of agriculture? Purchase the agriculture plates.

A certificate issued by CFA is needed to purchase the plates. The cost is a minimum donation of \$25 (per license plate set) to the Colorado Foundation for Agriculture plus a one time \$25 fee payable to your county motor vehicle department for each set of plates. Your regular owner and license fees are in addition to these costs.

To order the plates use the form below, or you can simply send a check and write on the memo portion of your check that it is for the agriculture plates. We will return your certificate to the address on your check.

# WANTED ITEMS for FUND RAISING AUCTION

On January 18th at 6:30 after the Stockman's Barbecue at the National Western Stock Show there will be a fund raising auction for Colorado Foundation for Agriculture. If you have an item that you would like to donate to be auctioned to benefit the Ag in the Classroom Program, please contact CFA.

For example, we have the following donations:

4 Club Level 2006 Bronco Tickets donated by Colorado Beef Council

Western Clothing and Jeans donated by Miller International

2 5-liter Bottles of Dectomax from Pfizer Animal Health

Bette Blinde, CFA, P.O. Box 10, Livermore, CO 80536, phone 970-881-2902. Website: [www.growingyourfuture.com](http://www.growingyourfuture.com)

**YES!** I want to support the Colorado Foundation for Agriculture and the Ag in the Classroom programs!

Enclosed is

- \$60 Adopt a Classroom
- \$15 Donation
- \$50 Donation
- \$100 Donation
- \$250 Donation
- \$500 Donation
- \$1000 Donation
- Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

- Send classroom sets of *Understanding Water* Activity Book– \$75 per classroom set. ....Number of sets \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 75 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Send classroom sets of *Wildlife* Activity Book – \$35 per classroom set.....Number of sets \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 35 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Send classroom sets of *Wool & Sheep* Activity Book – \$35 per classroom set .....Number of sets \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 35 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Provide scholarships to the AgriCULTURE in the Classroom Institute – \$250 per teacher. ....Number of scholarships \_\_\_\_\_ x \$250 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- “Growing Your Future” License Plate Certificate – \$25 per set of plates ....Number of license plates \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 25 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Sponsor “A River’s Journey” CD Set to a Classroom .....Number of CD sets \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 15 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Sponsor “Food, Land & People” CD to a Classroom.....Number of CDs \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 35 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAIL CHECKS MADE PAYABLE TO: **Colorado Foundation for Agriculture**  
P.O. Box 10  
Livermore, CO 80536

The Colorado Foundation for Agriculture is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit educational corporation. Your tax deductible donation is appreciated.