

FOUNDATION on the FIRST

February 2017



Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation on the First Newsletter

Registration for 2017 conference now open

KFAC is announcing its second annual summer conference for Kansas educators on June 1, 2017 at the Salina Bicentennial Center, Salina, Kan. "Education: Rooted in Agriculture" is open to teachers, college students, county farm bureau and conservation district staff and volunteers and agricultural enthusiasts. More information about the conference will be [posted at our website](#).

This year's conference will feature children's book author, Peggy Thomas, as the keynote speaker. Thomas has penned several books about U.S. president's in agriculture including *Thomas Jefferson Grows a Nation* and *Farmer George Plants a Nation*.

In addition to Thomas, educators from across the state will present workshops for attendees that cover common school subjects including science, math, language arts and social studies. Workshops will spread across K-12 grades.

Registration for the conference is handled through K-State Conference Services and [can be completed online here](#). Pricing is as follows:

- Early Bird - \$50 until Feb. 19
- Regular - \$65 until April 19
- Late - \$75 until June 1

Several generous donors have already committed to supporting this event, including Kansas Department of Agriculture, Kansas USDA-NRCS, Kansas Dairy Commission, Kansas Pork Association, Prairieland Partners and Farmer Direct Foods. Thank you for your support!

If you are interested in sponsoring a portion of the conference or have questions related to the event, please call (785) 320-4350 or email ksfac@ksu.edu.

Topeka A+STEM, Science Pioneers

On Jan. 3, KFAC presented an A+STEM professional development workshop for the Topeka school district during a districtwide in-service. Forty-two teachers, primarily elementary level, participated in hands-on activities and received KFAC resources during the in-service. Activities included Kernel Kids (wheat germination activity), Pollinators, Edible Soil Profile, Pumpkin Exploration and Water Works, all KFAC

lessons and activities available on the KFAC website at www.ksagclassroom.org.

More recently, on Jan. 28, KFAC took part in the annual Science Pioneers event for educators in Kansas City. KFAC staff shared some of our newest resources including the latest Kids Connection magazines. Teachers were also able to make cottage cheese.



February Teacher Feature

Janet Holden



School: Northern Heights High School

Subjects Taught: Family and Consumer Sciences

Fun Fact: Holden knew she wanted to be a teacher after being involved in FCCLA in high school.

[Read more about HOLDEN here.](#)

Friends on the Farm event brings 700+ students, 30 teachers

KFAC recently participated in the annual Friends on the Farm event hosted by the Finney County Farm Bureau on Jan. 20. More than 700 students from Finney county schools attended the event held in Garden City and rotated through multiple stations about varying agricultural topics and commodities.



While students were learning, teachers were also taking in a few new ideas during a workshop presented by KFAC. More than 30 teachers participated in the workshops. In following the 2016-2017 school year theme, Farm Animals and Me, teachers learned how to make cottage cheese, participated in a feed sack snack activity that exhibits various feedstuffs for different types of farm animals and received copies of the newest Kids Connection magazines, Beyond the Beef Barn, More than Milk and Pig Tales.



Grow Green Match Day!

Have you ever wished your donated dollars could be stretched a little further? New KFAC donors will have the opportunity to leverage their contribution dollars during the Manhattan Community Foundation Grow Green Match Day on April 21, 2017.

How Does This Work?

Through the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation, KFAC has an endowment fund that is part of the Grow Green Match Day (April 21). Each donated dollar up to \$1,000 per donor will be qualified for a \$0.50 match. The match dollars can be used immediately by KFAC for day to day operations, educational delivery methods such as Summer Conferences and Institutes, and for maintenance and development of written resources for use by Kansas teachers and their students.

This is an exciting opportunity for new donors to significantly assist in funding KFAC programs. More information and details will be posted on our website, www.ksagclassroom.org, as we have them.

This is a perfect opportunity to celebrate KFAC's 35th anniversary. With your help, our goal is to raise \$35,000 in this effort! We feel certain there are 100 great agriculture supporters and educators who will step up to donate \$350 towards the \$35,000 goal!

For more information on Grow Green Match Day, visit the [Grow Green Manhattan website](http://www.growgreenmanhattan.org).

Agri-Tag

You may have noticed, or received notice via mail if you are an agri-tag owner, that the fee associated with agri-tags increased to \$35 on August 1, 2016.

With 2017 being KFAC's 35th anniversary, it seemed like the ideal time to increase the agri-tag fee. We greatly appreciate your support for Kansas Agriculture Literacy through your purchase of our speciality tag!

Great goals continue with your help: Tag your friends, family & neighbors to show them how great supporting agriculture literacy can be! This year we have a goal to double the number of agri-tags on Kansas roads and highways and we need your help! We have increased the numbers, but haven't reached our goal of doubling yet! If you or someone you know are interested in getting one, please visit your county treasurer's office.

For an annual tax-deductible donation of \$35, you can help further KFAC's mission of connecting classrooms to Kansas agriculture. The agri-tag is the only agriculture-related specialty tag in the state. Join us in promoting Kansas' number one industry - agriculture!



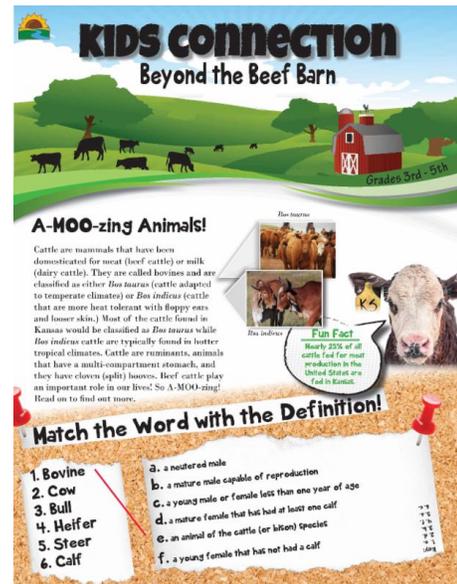
Don't forget about our great CLASSROOM RESOURCES!

Beyond the barn, farm animals provide us with so many great products that we use every day, including some of our favorite foods. The "[Farm Animals and Me](#)" Kids Connection Magazines provide students with fun facts, games, relevant information and insight into co-products. Unveiled at the 2016 Summer Conference were Beyond the Beef Barn, More than Milk and Pig Tales. These magazines are available for free download.

Goats, poultry and sheep magazines will be available online soon!

The Kansas Natural Resources Educator Guide and Kansas Plants Educator's Guide are also available. These valuable resources offer a plethora of information on Kansas crops, farming, food and natural resources.

To order your resources, visit the KFAC website at www.ksagclassroom.org, or call (785) 320-4350.



IMPORTANT DATES

Mark your calendar with these important dates:

Feb.1 - Bookmark Art deadline for postmark

Feb. 10 - Women Managing the Farm conference

Feb. 17 - KFAC Strategic Planning Meeting, Junction City

Feb. 18 - Cattle Drive presentation, Buhler

March 14 - Bookmark Art and Teacher of the Year celebration, Topeka

June 1 - Summer Conference, Salina

June 6-8 - Southeast Kansas summer institute

June 20-23 - National Ag in the Classroom Conference, Kansas City

STAY CONNECTED:

