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asked "How do pigs comes from brown ding the fi cows?," I recognized the critical need for CFAITC! 😎 chocolate milk teachers and students "Does and When an Francis realizing share

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Celebrating National Agriculture Week!

NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS OF AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM

Since 1986, California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom (CFAITC) has worked to promote a greater awareness of agriculture's role in our daily lives to California's teachers and students. This spring, CFAITC will pay tribute to agriculture with three special events. We invite you attend one of our National Agriculture Week events and help us share the value California agriculture provides to our society and economy.



WITH YOUR SUPPORT

February 2014

A northern California event will be held on March 20 at Mulvaney's Next Door to the B&L in Sacramento. Attendees will enjoy wine, light dinner fare stations, and Patrick Mulvaney will address the audience. A southern California event will be held at Angel Stadium on April 3. Attendees will participate in a tour of the stadium and lunch will be served in the Diamond Club. The last event will be held on April 11 at the season opener of the Fresno Grizzlies baseball team and will include a farm forum discussion, pre-game barbecue, and tickets to the ball game.

The everyday efforts of CFAITC are not only visible in California schools, they reach far beyond the classroom walls and into the lives of California students. Your attendance at these events will help CFAITC continue its more than 25-year tradition of promoting an awareness of the many benefits agriculture provides along with the importance of farming and ranching to California's economy.

For event sponsorship, or more information, visit www.LearnAboutAg.org/tribute or call (800) 700-AITC (2482). 🤜



National Agriculture Week

Mulvaney's Sacramento • March 20

> **Angel Stadium** Anaheim • April 3

Fresno Grizzlies Fresno • April 11

California Ag Day and Imagine this... Ceremony State Capitol • March 19

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.LEARNABOUTAG.ORG!

upcoming events:

Celebrations

CALIFORNIA FOUNDATION FOR AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM RELIES ON THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF OUR DONORS, WITHOUT WHOM OUR MESSAGE WOULD GO UNHEARD. THANK YOU.

Syngenta: A Long-standing Supporter

As we celebrate National Agriculture Week, it is fitting to highlight one of Agriculture in the Classroom's longtime supporters. Syngenta is a global company specializing in crop protection and seed biotechnology

syngenta

and has supported Agriculture in the Classroom annually as a major sponsor for the past 10 years. Syngenta believes strongly in agricultural education and shares CFAITC's vision for the future of an appreciation of agriculture by all.

"Agriculture in the Classroom is very important in today's society. Agriculture is a \$121 billion industry in the United States and there is a need for crop protection and seed products, biotechnology, and an integrated approach to managing pests and increasing yields. We need voters to understand the significance of the industry, and teachers to understand the value of agriculture," said Dennis Kelly, team lead, State Affairs at Syngenta. "It is important to keep science in front of students. When students are introduced to the science and technology in agriculture, it may spark a future interest in career opportunities within the industry."

Syngenta believes that sound science is critical in agriculture. The company spends 30 percent of its budget on research and development to create better technology



IN OCTOBER 2013, CFAITC PARTNERED WITH CLASS 43 OF THE CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM AND THE COW PALACE TO HOST AN AGRICULTURAL CAREER FAIR FOR 300 SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA STUDENTS.

for agriculture. "We need to educate about the important role that science plays in feeding the world and the important task of producing more with the same or less crop land and resources, like water. This is only going to become more important," Kelly said.

Agriculture in the Classroom thanks Syngenta for its generous annual donations and continued support of the Foundation's agricultural literacy efforts.

National Beef Ambassador Inspired by *Imagine this*... Story Writing Contest

of the agriculture industry."



In 2009, Emma Morris was an eighth grade student at Scotts Valley Junior High School and was selected as a statewinning author of the *Imagine* this... Story Writing Contest.

Morris' favorite memory of the contest was the trip to Sacramento and award

ceremony in the Governor's Council Room. "We were treated with so much honor and importance," Morris said. She was also invited to read her story at one of Agriculture in the

Classroom's National Agriculture Week events, and signed books for the attendees.

The Imagine this ... Story Writing Contest both encouraged and inspired her to get involved in other agricultural programs. Today, the 17-year-old senior at Etna High School is an officer in her 4-H club and FFA chapter, she is a collegiate Farm Bureau member, and was just selected as one of the 2014 National Beef Ambassadors. Each year, five students are selected from throughout the nation to participate. The program provides

> ILLUSTRATION FROM EMMA'S STORY LATE NIGHT LAMBING

an opportunity for youth to educate consumers and students about all aspects of the beef industry. "The experiences I had in the Imagine this ... contest made me want to become an advocate for the industry and work to promote agriculture," Morris said.

Morris represents the sixth generation on her family's ranch in Northern California. She based her award-winning story on what her family does on their ranch and her experiences raising sheep. Morris continues to keep in touch with her eighth grade teacher, Tracy Dickinson, and recently

taught a lesson in the "The *Imagine this...* classroom. Dickinson Story Writing Contest uses her story as an gave me a ton of confidence. example each year in her class. "Emma definitely It was a very rewarding experience gained confidence that really encouraged me to and realized she could become involved in other aspects achieve anything she set her heart on. Thank you

> for giving the kids the support and confidence they need to go out and chase their dreams," said Dickinson.

Morris plans to attend Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, and major in agricultural communications with a minor in agricultural business. She would like to become a lobbyist and advocate for the agriculture industry. 🤜





California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom (CFAITC). Our mission is to increase awareness and understanding of agriculture among California's educators and students. Our vision is an appreciation of agriculture by all.

{800} 700-AITC (2482)

www.LearnAboutAg.org

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