



Jim Rubis Retires; David E. Sykes Named New President of JFAN

Rubis Will Remain Involved with JFAN as Emeritus Director



JFAN welcomes new president David E. Sykes (left); Jim Rubis (right) retires after nine years on the JFAN board. "I'm not leaving JFAN behind," Rubis says.

by Diane Rosenberg
Executive Director

Founding Jefferson County Farmers & Neighbors, Inc. (JFAN) board member and president Jim Rubis retired from the JFAN Board of Directors effective October 1. Rubis stepped down after nine years of dedicated service to the Jefferson County community in which he was instrumental in establishing JFAN as an effective resource for protecting Jefferson County's quality of life from the proliferation of factory farms.

Rubis was sought out for the board dur-

ing JFAN's formation in 2005. His earlier 33-year tenure as director of the Fairfield Public library combined with his farming experience and community service made him an ideal candidate to reach out to a broad spectrum of the Jefferson County community. Rubis gracefully stepped into the role and served as a bridge to many diverse community groups.

"From the beginning, it was clear he would be the ideal president and initial leader of JFAN," says JFAN legal counsel and new president David E. Sykes.

Rubis was especially effective in helping

CHANGE continued on p. 11

In the News.....

Obama Administration Addresses Antibiotic Resistance Crisis

Critics Say It Ignores Antibiotics in Agriculture

An Executive Order signed in September by President Obama calls for a national strategy to address the growing peril of antibiotic resistance, reports *The New York Times*. But health and environmental officials criticize the plan saying it fails to seriously address the overuse of antibiotics in industrial livestock production.

The Executive Order will create a national task force mandated to develop a five-year plan by February 15, 2015. The plan is to include regulations requiring hospitals to implement antibiotics stewardship programs.

This is the first significant White House

ORDER continued on p. 2

IN THIS ISSUE

Missouri Right To Farm Passes	2
Idaho Ag-Gag Challenged	3
TPP Threat	4
Understanding Poultry Labeling.....	7
Myths and Facts of EPA Water Rule	7
JFAN Statement on CAFO Threat	8
Study: Hog Workers and MRSA.....	9
JFAN Activities at a Glance	10
News Briefs	12
Message from New JFAN President	16

WENONAH HAUTER • CHARLIE SPEER • RICHARD MIDDLETON

JFAN Annual Meeting • Wed. October 15 at 7:30 pm • Fairfield Arts & Convention Center

JFAN NEWSLETTER

JEFFERSON COUNTY
FARMERS & NEIGHBORS, INC

Volume 14 ~ FALL/WINTER 2014

President

David E. Sykes

Executive Director

Diane Rosenberg

Editor-in-Chief and Art Director

Diane Rosenberg

Distribution

Chihlan Chiu

Legal Counsel

David E. Sykes

Fairfield, Iowa

Accounting

Fairfield Accounting Services, Fairfield
Brooks, Lodden, P.C., Des Moines, Iowa

**All articles are written and reported
by JFAN unless attributed otherwise.**

This newsletter is published
semi-annually by the
Board of Directors
of Jefferson County Farmers
and Neighbors, Inc. (JFAN),
which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit
tax-exempt educational foundation.

JFAN

P.O. Box 811 • Fairfield, IA 52556

(641) 209-6600

www.jfaniowa.org • jfan@lisco.com

JFAN is a not for profit tax exempt organization. Donations are tax exempt to the full extent of the law as authorized by the IRS. Articles written by guest authors may not reflect the opinions of JFAN. Information contained in the newsletter is intended to be educational and informational and is not intended to give legal advice. If you have specific legal questions regarding issues addressed in this publication, please seek the advice of an attorney.

In the News.....

Missouri Passes Right to Farm Amendment

Controversial Measure Passes with Less than 1% of Vote

Missouri voters passed a highly controversial state constitutional amendment with only a quarter of one percentage point that guarantees “the right of farmers and ranchers to engage in farming and ranching practices” report *The New York Times* and *Fox News*.

Missouri Farmers Care, an organization representing commodity and industry groups such as Missouri Farm Bureau, Cargill, Monsanto, and Missouri Pork Association among others, backed the amendment. Its website claimed the amendment was needed to protect Missouri farmers from “extremist groups” and “anti-agriculture groups that have used the initiative petition process in many states to target agriculture.”

Missouri Food for America, a broad coalition of family farmers and environmentalists including Missouri Farmer’s Union, Humane Society of the United States, Food Democracy Now, and Sierra Club, opposed the measure. They pointed out that laws guaranteeing the right to farm already exist in Missouri, and the amendment would hurt small farmers because it would empower large corporate farmers to bypass regulations by citing their guaranteed “right to farm.”

The amendment is so broad that there

is widespread concern that it would override local and state CAFO regulations. Both sides are expecting that the amendment will wind up the center of many court battles in which judges and juries will define what the law actually means.

Wes Shoemyer, president of Missouri Food for America and a former state representative, says if a farmer possess a constitutional right to farm, then current statutes can be challenged in court. But the courts shouldn’t be in the position to determine agricultural policy, he adds, because they don’t have an intricate knowledge base in agriculture.

“One thing’s for sure – it’s going to put agriculture above everybody else. We’re going to be a different class of people. You won’t be able to complain about anything that we do. That should never be the case,” said cattle and soybean farmer Darvin Bentlage in *The New York Times* article.

Editor’s Note: If Missouri’s Right to Farm amendment is upheld in the courts, Iowan’s may see a similar constitutional amendment or an amended law to protect corporate agricultural interests in Iowa – particularly their “right to operate CAFOs.” JFAN will be watching this closely.

ORDER *continued from p. 1*

plan to address the growing threat of antibiotic resistance, a health crisis that claims 23,000 lives each year, according to a 2013 Centers for Disease Control report. A World Health Organization report earlier this year called antibiotic resistance “a problem so serious, it threatens the achievements of modern medicine.”

The Executive Order came on the heels of a 65-page report from the President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology that recommends several steps to address the crisis. They include doubling the current budget for stewardship, surveillance, and research to \$900 million a year, and providing \$800 million in funding incentives to pharmaceutical companies to spur the development of new antibiotics.

Given that over 70% of all antibiotics in the US are used in industrial livestock production for growth enhancement and disease prevention, many health experts were disappointed with the report, saying it virtually ignored agriculture’s use of the drugs. Health advocates criticized White House avoidance of the large loophole in the Food and Drug Administration’s voluntary antibiotic resistance reduction plan. Critics say the FDA plan won’t make a significant impact in antibiotic reduction. (See the *Spring/Summer 2014 JFAN Newsletter* for an in-depth article on the loophole in the FDA plan.)

University of Minnesota professor of medicine and infectious disease expert Dr. James Johnson says the council’s report

ORDER *continued on p. 9*

Federal Judge Allows Ag-Gag Challenge to Proceed

Saying it raises serious constitutional issues, a federal judge is allowing a lawsuit challenging Idaho's Ag-Gag law to move forward, reports *Reader Supported News*.

Idaho's version of the Ag-Gag law, Section 18-7042 of the state's code, outlaws "interference with agricultural production" involving, among other things, videotaping or audio recording in an agricultural production facility.

A lawsuit brought by the Animal Legal Defense Fund, ACLU of Idaho, PETA, undercover investigators, and journalists says the law is unconstitutional and preempted by several federal statutes.

The state government argued that the law is not restrictive of the First Amendment since whistleblowers may lie on job applications in order to gain access to factory farms.

But in his ruling, Chief US District Judge B. Lynn Winmill said that a ban on photography and videography is clearly protected by free speech and lying on a job applica-

tion constitutes free speech as well.

He cited a similar union activity legally protected by the National Labor Relations Act called "salting" in which paid union representatives apply for jobs in order to



access worksites often denied to union organizers.

"Misrepresentations would be protected speech because they are not made to cause material harm to an agricultural production facility but to expose truths about the agricultural industry," Judge

Winmill wrote in his opinion.

Plaintiffs argued that the Ag-Gag law violates the equal protection clause because the law singles out whistleblowers specifically critical of the agricultural industry and not whistleblowers in other industries, and Judge Winmill appeared to agree.

"Likewise the law only prohibits unauthorized filming, so it's more likely that those who wish to portray the agricultural facility in a positive light will be allowed to film while those critical of the industry will not. By, in effect, privileging speech that is supportive of the agricultural industry, section 18-7042 impermissibly discriminates on viewpoint," he wrote. "In fact, the more successful an activist is in mobilizing public opinion against a facility by publishing a video or story critical of the facility, the more the activist will be punished."

Judge Winmill said the animal rights groups will need to demonstrate that the Idaho state government is regulating free speech more than is necessary and that the law violates equal protection and federal preemption.



641.472.5141

60 S. MAIN ST. FAIRFIELD, IA 52556

EMAIL: ADMIN@DAVIDSYKESLAW.COM

WEB: WWW.DAVIDSYKESLAW.COM

FIGHTING FACTORY FARMS (CAFOs)



Iowa attorney David E. Sykes has provided legal services for individuals and communities fighting CAFOs in Iowa for over five years. Mr. Sykes is now joined by nationally recognized environmental attorneys Charlie Speer from Kansas City, Missouri and Richard H. Middleton, Jr. from Savannah, Georgia. Mr. Speer and Mr. Middleton have won numerous multi-million dollar legal settlements and court awards nationwide on behalf of their clients. This experienced legal team is now representing Iowa communities fighting CAFOs. They provide legal services on a contingency fee basis where they are only compensated if they win money damages for their clients. This fee structure helps level the playing field when communities are financially struggling against CAFO operators and their well-financed industrialized agricultural suppliers.

The determination of the need for legal services and the choice of a lawyer are extremely important decisions and should not be based solely upon advertisements or self-proclaimed expertise. A description or indication of limitation of practice does not mean that any agency or board has certified such lawyer as a specialist or expert in an indicated field of law practice, nor does it mean that such lawyer is necessarily any more expert or competent than any other lawyer. Memberships and offices in legal fraternities and legal societies, technical and professional licenses, and memberships in scientific, technical and professional associations and societies of law or field of practice does not mean that a lawyer is a specialist or expert in a field of law, nor does it mean that such lawyer is necessarily more expert or competent than any other lawyer. All potential clients are urged to make their own independent investigation and evaluation of any lawyer being considered. This disclosure is required by rule of the Supreme Court of Iowa.

Whose Century Is It? The Trans-Pacific Partnership, Food, and the “21st-Century Trade Agreement”

By Adam Needelman

Institute of Agricultural and Trade Policy

Excerpted from the full article.

Editor's Note: If the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade agreement is signed, Iowans could lose the ability to implement stricter CAFO or GMO regulations than China, Vietnam, Mexico, Chile, or anywhere else on the Pacific rim. Regulations could not be more stringent than the least regulated country. The TPP could have significant impacts on Iowa.

The Future of Trade Deals?

In the final year of the George W. Bush presidency, the US entered into negotiations to establish a gargantuan new trade deal. The negotiations for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) currently involve 12 countries – Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, Vietnam, and the United States—together comprising 40 percent of the world economy and a third of global trade. In pro-TPP rhetoric, the deal is marketed as a “21st-century trade agreement.”

But the deal isn't as futuristic as its boosters want you to believe; rather, it's a massive double down on the strategies and philosophies of NAFTA and other 20th-century free trade agreements. And like those earlier deals, TPP has the potential to impact agriculture and food systems on a large scale. There isn't a single TPP chapter on agriculture in TPP; rather, issues impacting food and agriculture are scattered throughout the deal. With that in mind, here are the issues that

characterize the TPP so far:

It undermines local control of food: Only five of the 29 chapters of the “trade” agreement deal with conventional trade issues like tariffs or quotas. The real focus



Photo: Dirk Ercken/Shutterstock.com

of the deal is “regulatory coherence.” The idea here is that the current diversity of national and sub-national-level laws and regulations complicate trade, and that some regulations constitute “barriers” rather than legitimate safeguards for public health or the environment.

The TPP fix is to “eliminate unnecessary barriers [and] reduce regional divergence” in standards. This means that if the TPP is adopted by the countries involved, regulations written by negotiators will supersede local laws and policies.

While regulations in the trade deal would be legally binding, there are also built-in enforcement mechanisms, including an Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) process, in which corporations can sue countries over rules they feel are infringing on their expected profits. ISDS, enshrined in other trade deals like the

US-Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA), has been a powerful lever for corporations to challenge national and local laws. CAFTA has allowed mining companies to sue Latin American countries, notably El Salvador, for refusing them the “right to mine” – likewise, corporations like Monsanto have power to sue small countries that don't want their products, and will see that power increased in the TPP. Under regulatory deals, secret panels of trade boosters tell sovereign countries how to legislate.

It's done in deep secrecy: While the regulatory focus of TPP means that the deal could have tremendous impacts on domestic policy, absolutely everything the public—and most of Congress—knows about the actual content of the TPP comes from leaks rather than public debate or published texts; negotiating texts are kept top-secret. Members of Congress only have limited, hard-fought access to negotiating texts. Those who go through the rigmarole of seeing the text are not allowed to take any notes on it, publicize what they've learned, or share specific information with anyone.

In 2012, then-US Trade Representative Ron Kirk intimated that secrecy is needed precisely because Congress and the people they represent may disagree with the issues USTR [Office of the US Trade Representative] and the other negotiators are pushing. Under the terms of the negotiations, even after the deal is completed and made public, those past negotiating texts will stay secret for four years after it takes hold.

In 2012, after battling for months to see the agreement's text, Rep. Alan Grayson

We are right there
with you, JFAN.
Thanks for all you do.

THE LEOPOLD GROUP
SIERRA CLUB — SOUTHEAST IOWA

Join us as we Explore, Enjoy and Protect our planet.
For info call Jack 469-5243; email: engstrom@lisco.com
www.sierraclub.org

Learn How to Go Non-GMO!
THE ORGANIC & NON-GMO REPORT

is the only publication that keeps you up-to-date on the genetically modified food threat and the growing non-GMO food trend

FREE with your subscription
THE NON-GMO SOURCEBOOK

- See why non-GMO is the fastest growing natural food category
- Learn which foods contain GMOs and how to avoid them
- Know which companies are producing verified non-GMO foods
- Access non-GMO seed sources for your garden

Receive a free sample issue

Call 1-800-854-0586 or visit www.non-gmoreport.com

(D-FL) called it ironic that “the government thinks it’s alright to have a record of every single call that an American makes, but not alright for an American citizen to know what sovereign powers the government is negotiating away.” More recently, 130 Congressional opponents of TPP’s secrecy sent a letter to the White House pointing out that previous trade deals set a much higher bar for transparency.

It’s a corporate brainchild: So, with TPP negotiations safely insulated from our democracy, how does USTR make decisions? Six hundred corporate advisors are allowed direct input to the negotiation texts, even as our elected officials are offered no meaningful access. The “goals” of the USTR value free markets over any and all other concerns, like those of workers or farmers, public health or the environment. In this frame, countries’ protective measures like tariffs and quotas, technical regulations like consumer labeling laws for food, and food safety standards like the restrictions many countries have put on beef after the breakout of Mad Cow disease in the early 2000s, become problems to be solved rather than legitimate exercises of policy.

The corporate bias in these trade deals is especially apparent in agriculture:

USTR’s Agricultural Policy Advisory Committee is loaded with prominent members of huge agribusiness concerns like the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association and Cargill. When corporations run the negotiations, policy judgments are made on the basis of how much they “distort” trade rather than how much they support the public good.

“...the largest corporate power grab you’ve never heard of...”

- Rep. Keith Ellison

It’s dependent on Fast Track: Whatever USTR and the other negotiators decide must be approved by the US Congress. But proponents don’t want TPP subject to the same processes as other legislation. USTR and its allies are fighting for Fast Track, or “Trade Promotion” Authority (TPA).

TPA is a measure originally designed by the Nixon administration. It mandates both houses of Congress to hold a yes or no vote on the completed text of the deal within 90 days, with no ability to amend or revise the deal; this is a privilege no other piece of legislation ever gets. Con-

gress has yet to consider Fast Track and this will be a major hurdle for the TPP.

If the “21st-century trade agreement” undercuts democratic processes at home and abroad, and is kept from our elected officials while being open to lobbyists, who does the 21st-century really belong to? Will people and governments be allowed to protect public health and the environment – or defend the livelihoods of farmers? Or will corporate lobbyists set the terms?

Opponents of the TPP

While free trade proponents see profits and GDP as be-all, end-all goals, there are politicians and political actors who do not feel that way. Congressman Alan Grayson, for example, has been a vocal critic of the TPP. His website, trade-treachery.com, currently hosts an online petition to support the Grayson Amendment, a bill that would protect Buy American provisions endangered by the TPP’s pro-competition language.

Rep. Keith Ellison (D-MN) has opposed the TPP, calling it “the largest corporate power grab you’ve never heard of” and saying “Let’s see it. If it’s so good, why are they keeping it hidden?” Rep.

TPP *continued on p. 14*



The Socially Responsible Agricultural Project (SRAP) works throughout the U.S. helping communities protect themselves from the negative impacts of factory farms, officially called Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs). SRAP gives family farmers, ranchers, and other rural citizens the tools needed to develop and sustain ecologically sound, economically viable, humane farming.



Excess manure from factory farms runs off into our waterways, polluting the environment and drinking water.

Factory farms decrease quality of life, pollute air and water, degrade public health, and divide communities -- all at the expense of socially responsible farmers.



For more information, visit us online at www.sraproject.org and  us on Facebook.



proud sponsor of JFAN

all our products are sustainably grown & harvested

no side-effects. no chemicals. no GMOs



vpk[™] by Maharishi
Ayurveda

www.mapi.com 800-255-8332

Health & Wholeness, HyVee, Everybody's, Thymely Solutions, MUM bookstore & Golden Dome Market

Cage-Free, Free-Range or Pastured-Poultry? Which Should You Buy?

By Diane Rosenberg
Executive Director

It's common to think eggs and other poultry products labeled as cage-free, free-range, organic, and pastured-poultry mean pretty much the same thing. In reality, these labels have different meanings.

Understanding the following terms, thanks to information compiled from the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and the Lexicon of Sustainability websites, can help you make informed choices at your local supermarket or farmers market.

Cage-free – Chickens that are not kept in small “battery cages” with several others are “cage-free.” That's all it means. They typically live in confinement buildings that may cluster many thousands of chickens, and they generally don't have access to outdoors. They can walk around, spread their wings, and nest.

Free-Range – Sometimes called “free roaming”, free-range chickens are generally also housed in confinement buildings and theoretically have some limited access to the outdoors each day. The outdoor access area may be small compared to the confinement, and not all chickens may actually get outside. The USDA does not regulate how long chickens may be given outdoor access nor does it regulate the feed they receive. They can walk around, spread their wings, and nest.

Certified Organic – Chickens are raised uncaged in confinement buildings. They are required to have access to the outdoors, but again, the USDA doesn't define the duration, quality and amount of time outdoors. The USDA does require that they receive feed that is organic, antibiotic-free, pesticide free, and vegetarian. They can walk around, spread their wings, and nest.

Vegetarian-Fed – This term relates primarily to the feed used and not a chicken's living conditions. Chickens vegetarian-fed receive no animal byproducts in their feed. According to HSUS, chickens in this category typically spend no time outdoors.

Pasture-Raised – Chickens typically are raised outdoors on pasture with living plant material most of the year and are sometimes housed in the evenings for protection. They are able to enjoy their natural behaviors of dust bathing and foraging in addition

to walking freely, spreading their wings and nesting. As with the other terms, the USDA does not provide government regulated standards for pasture-raised chickens, so there are no official guidelines for feed, how much time they are on pasture, nor the quality of the pasture.

In all cases, beak cutting and forced



Photo: Kharkhan Oleg/Shutterstock.com



Photo: Pauline Eccles/Wikimedia Commons

The top photo is an example of cage free chickens. Pasture-raised chickens generally are able to enjoy the full range of normal chicken behaviors.

molting by starvation is allowed under these terms. Forced molting is the practice of withdrawing feed for 7-14 days in order to artificially provoke a flock to simultaneously molt. Forced molting allows a chicken's reproductive system to rest and rejuvenate so it may once again lay eggs at a high production rate. The practice is considered inhumane.

Because of the inconsistencies within each category, it's best to learn how the chickens were raised in order to make informed choices. Free-range, a popular label, is as reliable a gauge as the meaningless term “natural.” Farmers will sometimes use “free-range” to define their pasture-raised poultry, too, so it's good to be clear on what they actually mean. You may not be able to get answers at your local supermarket, but shopping at a farmers market or at a local farm can give you an opportunity to ask your producers how they raise their chickens.

In the News.....

Myths and Facts: The Waters of the US Rule

The Environmental Protection Agency and US Army Corps of Engineers is proposing a rule to clarify protections and close loopholes in the Clean Water Act (CWA). Over half of US waterways and millions of acres of wetlands are currently unprotected because of these loopholes reports the Center for Rural Affairs (CRA). A public comment period on the rule is open until October 20.

The Waters of the United States (WOTUS) rule would “protect the quality of the nation's surface waters, and provide an environment in which economically vital activities such as hunting, fishing and birding as well as farming and ranching can both thrive and contribute to a better quality of life and safer drinking water,” said John Crabtree of the CRA in a press release.

According to Crabtree, Supreme Court challenges in 2001 and 2006 led to a decade of uncertainty over the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act. The proposed rule would restore Clean Water Act protections to 20 million acres of wetlands and more than half the nation's streams, helping preserve drinking water quality for 117 million Americans.

There is much confusion, misconceptions and fear about the rule among farm groups even though the EPA has addressed WOTUS concerns in websites, press releases, and over 350 meetings with farming stakeholders, says syndicated agricultural columnist Alan Guebert in *Farm & Food File*.

Farming and industrial agricultural groups call WOTUS a “land grab,” and the American Farm Bureau is adamantly opposed to the rule. On their website, “Ditch the Rule” they claim WOTUS would expand EPA regulation to “puddles, ponds, ditches, ephemerals, and isolated wetlands – typical land features on farms – and give the EPA control over land use and farming practices, affecting a farm's profitability.

Definitely not, says the EPA on their website “Ditch the Myth,” which refutes all the myths point by point. For example, some ditches that feed into larger down-

WOTUS continued on p. 13

A Statement from Jefferson County Farmers & Neighbors, Inc. Board of Directors on the Current CAFO Threat

Pork production in Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) or factory farms is expanding throughout Iowa, fueled by China's demand for cheap pork. Additional market factors make Southeast Iowa a prime area to build new CAFOs. As a result, Jefferson County is facing its most serious threat yet from the expansion of CAFOs. In 2014 alone, nine new factory farms were proposed.

JFAN is extremely concerned with these growing developments. Decades of scientific research demonstrates CAFOs can have devastating impacts on Iowan's health, quality of life, economic vitality, and environment. They are not in the best interests of the majority of Jefferson County residents. JFAN is here to ensure that every member of our county understands the adverse effects of factory farms and to ensure that no one is forced to tolerate a CAFO against his or her will. We advocate that CAFOs should not infringe on our fundamental American right to the use and enjoyment of homes and land nor to our quality of life.

In response to these infringing CAFOs, JFAN is reformatifying its efforts to ensure CAFO owners and corporate integrators know they are not welcome in Jefferson County, nor will the problems that CAFOs typically bring with them be tolerated.

JFAN takes particular exception to CAFO owners and integrators (corporate suppliers) who disrespect rural communities and traditional family farmers by building CAFOs without seeking the approval of neighbors within a 2-mile radius and by

not following the Iowa Pork Producer's Association's Best Management Practices and JFAN Good Neighbor Guidelines.

JFAN President Jim Rubis retired from the JFAN Board of Directors in October after nine years of dedicated service. David E. Sykes, attorney and member of the Charlie Speer/Richard Middleton/David E. Sykes Iowa legal team, succeeded Mr. Rubis as president. The appointment of an attorney as JFAN's president should be taken as a signal that



Photo: Bob Nichols, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

JFAN is stepping up its efforts to curtail CAFO development in our county.

Our community education programs and community organizing efforts will be in support of the following JFAN positions:

1. Large scale confinement animal feeding operations are not farms. Period. They are industrial operations that produce untreated animal waste products containing over 300 volatile organic compounds, noxious gases, and airborne particulates and should be regulated as such.

2. Unlike human sewage for which waste treatment is highly regulated, farm animal sewage is applied untreated to cropland. When applied in quantities typical of

CAFOs, this poses an unacceptable and scientifically proven public health threat. Sewage from CAFOs must be treated and more rigorously regulated in order to protect public health and the environment.

3. Raising livestock in close confinement is inherently inhumane. Studies show it can also produce less nutritious, and at times harmful, food products as compared to pasture-raised farming operations. JFAN supports sustainably raised, pasture-based animal husbandry methods by independent family farmers. There are economically viable alternatives to factory farms.

4. In response to a growing public concern about how food is produced, the corporate livestock industry is waging an aggressive and misleading public relations campaign to equate factory farming with traditional independent family farming. The truth is that corporate agribusinesses have put a large percentage of independent family farmers out of business and co-opted the image of independent, pastoral farming to deceive the public. JFAN will generate a strong response relying on the truth to appeal to the hearts and minds of the public while addressing the industry's misinformation campaign.

5. In general, Iowa laws and legal loopholes favor factory farming interests over the rights, needs, and interests of communities. These laws must be changed in order to better protect people and the environment from the harmful impacts of



Centerpoint
Investment Strategies

Securities offered through Financial West Group, (FWG) Member FINRA, SIPC.
Centerpoint Investment Strategies and FWG are unaffiliated entities
OSJ: 55 Main St., Suite 415, Newmarket, NH 03857 (603) 659-7626

Stuart Valentine
505 N 4th St – Suite 200
Fairfield, IA
641-469-6040

CAFOs and to give counties a say in the siting of confinements. JFAN will increase its lobbying efforts to the allowable limit for a 501(c)(3) educational organization to promote better legislation.

6. To help community groups stand up to unwanted CAFOs, when requested JFAN will continue to provide informational support and guidance to help neighbors pursue all options to stop a confinement. JFAN will continue to develop relationships with other state and national organizations in support of these efforts. We will also share our extensive knowledge base with other county groups so they may become more effective in protecting themselves against CAFO threats.

7. Until the laws change and CAFOs become a relic of the past, JFAN will continue to recommend nuisance and quality of life lawsuits as an option for community groups who are unsuccessful in their efforts to stop a confinement in their neighborhood. CAFO owners should understand that if they build CAFOs against neighbors' wishes, there is a good chance they will find themselves in a costly lawsuit.

ORDER *continued from p. 2*

"sounds like it was written by someone from the meat industry. Really disappointing. Actually depressing," writes *The New York Times*.

The effort appears to be focused on increasing future antibiotic supplies, says Lance Price, a George Washington University microbiologist. Drug companies are being encouraged to develop new drugs and a \$20 million prize is offered to a company that invents a diagnostic test that hospitals can use to quickly identify highly resistant bacterial infections.

However, Price says the system needs a major overhaul. "We can't keep introducing these new drugs into a broken system," he says in *The New York Times* article.

In a statement, the National Pork Producers Council appeared to react favorably to the executive order. "[T]he White House acknowledged something that the National Pork Producers Council has been saying for years: More epidemiological research is needed to understand the key drivers of increased antibiotic resistance."

Hog Workers Carry Drug-Resistant Bacteria For Extended Time

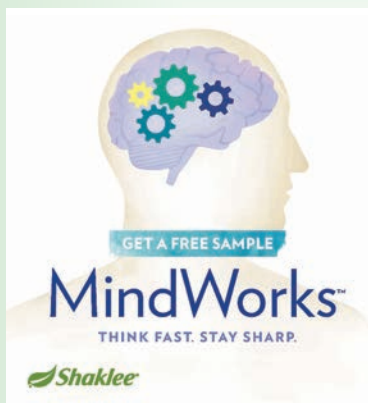
A new study suggests that nearly half of CAFO workers may be carrying home potentially harmful livestock-associated bacteria in their noses that remains with them up to four days after exposure reports a Johns Hopkins press release.

Researchers had believed that livestock-associated bacteria would clear from the noses of hog workers quickly – within 24 hours. But this small study of hog workers in North Carolina, reported online in the journal *Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, suggests it can stick around longer.

Much of the *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteria the workers carried were antibiotic resistant, likely due to the use of drugs both to treat sick hogs and to promote hog growth. The longer the bacteria stick around in workers' noses, the researchers say, the greater the opportunity for them to potentially spread to hog workers' families, their communities and even into hospitals, where the bacteria have been associated with an increased risk of staph infections.

For Those Who Use Their Brain Regularly...

THE LATEST ADVANCEMENT IN BRAIN SCIENCE
FROM SHAKLEE



Key ingredient research shows:

- 3x better memory & focus improvements compared to control groups
- 30% reduction in brain shrinkage
- Designed for Healthy Circulation



FOR A FREE SAMPLE
www.thinkmoreclearly.com

Bob Ferguson, Shaklee Senior Master Coordinator
913-208-6357 • info@thinkmoreclearly.com



Proudly supporting family
farms, not factories.

Thank you, JFAN!

Our Activities At a Glance

JFAN Working Hard for You

by Diane Rosenberg
Executive Director

JFAN Expands Board; Adds Five New Members

Five new members joined the JFAN Board of Directors in September. They represent a diverse cross section of people from the farming, rural, business, and residential communities, brought on to further strengthen JFAN's outreach.

The new members are organic farmer and long-time Jefferson County resident Jocelyn Engman; Dean Draznin, president of Draznin Communications, a public relations firm in Fairfield; Deb Chance, chair of the Save Batavia and Eldon steering committee; Bob Walls, President of Sky Factory and a member of the Sustainable Research Institute; and Clyde Cleveland, president of Randall Marketing Group, a financial training provider.

"We are absolutely thrilled that each of these accomplished members of the community will add their energy, ideas, and talents to an already strong JFAN board," says Executive Director Diane Rosenberg. "Their addition will give us even greater fire power as we combat CAFO development in the county."

Hellweg Requests Meeting with JFAN Over CAFO

Josh and Kendra Hellweg are moving forward with a 2480-head hog confinement on Peach Avenue in Penn Township. Prior to breaking ground, Kendra Hellweg asked to meet with JFAN to openly discuss their plans. JFAN Board Members Jim

Rubis and Diane Rosenberg met with Hellweg in July.

Until recently, the couple owned a nearby 5,000 head CAFO with Hellweg's father, Ed Ellmore. Their new confinement would give Kendra Hellweg an opportunity to farm full-time, she said.

JFAN used this meeting as an opportunity to discuss the impacts of the Hellweg confinement on neighbors, providing information and studies on environmental, economic, and health impacts. JFAN also provided information on sustainable farming and sources of financial support, encouraging a move into sustainable farming instead.

While Hellweg was determined to move forward with the CAFO, she did share that the couple also own land near Cambridge Investment Research. They opted to put the confinement on Peach Avenue away from neighbors that they knew would be opposed to the factory farm.

When asked why they were building a confinement for 2480 hogs, just 20 less than the 2500 threshold that would require a Master Matrix* and a construction permit, Hellweg shared that their decision was made based on the price. Confinement buildings are pre-designed to house 1200, 2400, and 2480 hogs, she said. The buildings are expensive, and to add the square footage and equipment for another 20 hogs would have added a significant amount to construction costs. "We're not afraid of the Master Matrix," she added.

The meeting was very cordial, and at its conclusion, Hellweg and her father, Ellmore, gave Rubis and Rosenberg a tour of their cattle barn. The Hellwegs also raise cattle on pasture.

**The Master Matrix is an additional 44-question application that counties adopt each year to evaluate confinements over 2500 hogs. All but 11 of Iowa's 99 counties typically adopt the Master Matrix. Seven of the 11 are located in Southeast Iowa, including Washington, Keokuk and Wapello counties. Unless there is an expansion or large facility, most confinements come in under 2500 hogs. CAFO owners that expand their operations frequently avoid the Master Matrix and permitting process by setting up confinements under a different LLC name, taking advantage of loophole in the Iowa code.*

New CAFO Uses Loophole to Avoid Master Matrix

Porkopolis, a new 2480-head factory farm received a go-ahead from the Iowa DNR to build within 100 feet of Pork Shop, a 2480-head CAFO owned by Ryan Robertson.

The CAFO appears to be another Ryan Robertson confinement that is avoiding the Master Matrix and permitting process because of a technical loophole in the Iowa code.

In May, Robertson, accompanied by Robertson's business associate Robert Deutsch, attended a board of supervisors meeting requesting a minor subdivision for the property just south of Pork Shop. He said the land would be used for a hog confinement, "a different entity with different owners," reported the *Fairfield Ledger* in their May 6 issue.

JFAN Executive Director Diane Rosenberg, asked Robertson to identify the new owner and corporate agent, but Robertson said that information hadn't yet been filed, and he wouldn't say more.

On July 30, the application for Porkopolis was filed at the Jefferson County Auditor's office and Iowa DNR. Jen Robertson, Ryan Robertson's wife, was



Genetic ID A Global Leader in GMO Testing

FoodChain ID Technical Administrators for the Non-GMO Project

CERT ID Providing Food Safety Certification Globally



Thank You, JFAN! • www.global-id-group.com

Creating Healthy Homes

FREE design consultation and estimates.

Building beautiful, eco-friendly homes since 1991.

- Kitchens, Bathrooms, Countertops and Vanities
- Hardwood Flooring, Carpet and Tile
- Paints, Plaster, Finishes



GREEN BUILDING SUPPLY
SAFE • SUSTAINABLE • SMART



641.472.1700



GreenBuildingSupply.com

listed as the owner.

JFAN immediately filed a formal complaint to both the DNR's Washington office and the agency's legal counsel claiming the Robertson's were violating the state's Common Ownership law. Given the Robertson's marital relationship and close proximity of the CAFOs, JFAN said the Porkopolis application should be withdrawn, and the new building should be considered an expansion of Pork Shop requiring a construction permit and Master Matrix.

According to Iowa's Common Ownership law, if a CAFO owner's spouse or a dependent child owns a majority interest in another confinement, the confinement is also considered held by the owner. Therefore, with Jen Robertson listed as the owner of Porkopolis, Ryan Robertson would be considered joint owner, and Porkopolis sited so close to Pork Shop would be invalid as an independent CAFO.

The DNR investigated the complaint with the Robertsons and requested paperwork showing ownership. After a delay of several weeks, the DNR received the papers and informed JFAN that Jen Robertson was removed as proprietor, and ownership was transferred to Robert Deutsch, Ryan Robertson's business associate.

This will bring the total number of hogs to 4960 in one location without the benefit of public comment, a construction permit, nor a Master Matrix. The CAFOs are less than 1400 feet to the west of a former schoolhouse used as a church by the local Amish community.

CHANGE *continued from p. 1*

to keep the channels of communication open between the farming community, CAFO owners, and neighbors. "I feel really good about that," he says. "That helped to create an awareness in some CAFO owners about how their confinement would impact neighbors. It helped to site some CAFOs away from concerned neighbors."

His agricultural experience made him a go-to person on the board regarding technical issues, and he played a large role in assessing CAFOs sites as well as helping to analyze CAFO applications including the Master Matrix.

"Jim had a real feeling for the community-at-large and a lot of agricultural knowledge. I worked closely with him and sought his opinion on a wide range of issues. I deeply valued his perspectives," says JFAN Executive Director Diane Rosenberg.

Despite his retirement, Rubis will remain connected with JFAN as its first Emeritus Board member. "The entire board is extremely pleased that Jim has agreed to accept this position so JFAN doesn't lose the benefit of his experience and wisdom," says Sykes.

"I'm not leaving JFAN behind," Rubis says. "I still care about it, and I'll still be involved, just not on a daily basis."

Rubis also expressed a desire to see the JFAN Board of Directors expanded. Five new board members representing the farming, rural, residential, and business communities have been added to further strengthen JFAN's outreach. (See *article on page 10.*)

David Sykes Named New JFAN President

With the serious CAFO threat menacing Southeast Iowa – nine new CAFOs were proposed in Jefferson County this year alone – the JFAN Board unanimously elected Fairfield attorney David E. Sykes to succeed Rubis as JFAN president, signaling a harder line JFAN will take in the fight to protect Jefferson County.

Sykes is an Iowa general practice attorney and founding JFAN board member. He was one of three initial neighbors that organized to fight a CAFO proposed by Robert Deutsch in 2005 that sparked the formation of JFAN. "I didn't even know what a CAFO was when we first heard about it," he says.

Sykes dove into the factory farming issue. He worked behind the scenes with JFAN to help several earlier community groups organize to fend off confinements. When he returned to his law practice in 2009, he began representing Iowans fighting CAFOs, famously taking on the Pleasant Plain lawsuit against James Kaska, representing 24 plaintiffs. That lawsuit settled out of court to the satisfaction of its plaintiffs in 2010.

Last spring, Sykes formed an Iowa legal team with nationally renowned environmental attorneys Charlie Speer from Kansas City, Missouri and Richard Middleton from Savannah, Georgia to take CAFO cases on a contingency fee basis.

Sykes is licensed to practice law in all Iowa state and federal courts and is a member of the Iowa Bar Association. Earlier this year, the Humane Society of the United States retained him as Iowa counsel in its case against Maschhoff Pork concerning their manure spill in Keosauqua in violation of the Clean Water Act.

The new JFAN president is also co-founder of Noah's Ark Animal Foundation and is currently its president and chairman of the board. Sykes has resided in Jefferson County since 1983.

See page 16 for a message from David E. Sykes

With a professional staff of 10 we can accommodate your year-round accounting needs:



Margie Wood

- Outsourced accounting services
- Web-based reporting for anytime-anywhere access
- Payroll processing, offering direct deposit
- Bill-paying and cash management for individuals and businesses
- Business tax preparation & planning
- Information system implementation

Call us at **641-472-6655**



Monica Hadley

FAIRFIELD ACCOUNTING SERVICES

Serving Fairfield Since 1982

News Briefs

FROM IOWA, THE US AND BEYOND

CCI: DNR Not Meeting Work Plan Goals

At the one-year mark of implementing the Clean Water Act (CWA) work plan, the DNR is failing to meet four of its five objectives, says Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement (CCI). While they say the plan is an important initial step to force Iowa to comply with the CWA, its vague and poorly defined goals are failing to protect the environment.

In the first year, the agency was to inspect 20% of Iowa's 8,500 factory farms to determine which CAFOs needed Clean Water Act permits. Only 14% were inspected, according to the DNR Annual Report

At least 49 manure spills were documented during the past year, but the Annual Report says "no permits were issued as a result of requirements from a Work Plan inspection." According to Iowa law, which does not allow state regulations to be stronger than federal regulations, permits can only be required if a

manure spill occurs.

The DNR is also required to "implement an enforcement program that ensures penalties are sought in accordance with DNR's [Enforcement Management System] and create a stronger deterrent to noncompliance."

However, only 11 of the 49 manure spills were charged with a fine or penalty.

CCI states the DNR is not doing a good job informing the public about the progress it's making with the Work Plan.

"This Work Plan will only be successful if it leads to real oversight of factory farm pollution in Iowa. That means serious inspections, strong permits, and enforcement actions that ensure it doesn't pay to pollute. DNR hasn't shown that it takes permitting seriously, and EPA should step in and conduct independent investigations of Iowa manure spills," said Tarah Heinzen, attorney at the Environmental Integrity Project (EIP).

EIP, along with CCI and the Iowa Sierra Club has put ongoing pressure on the EPA to force the DNR to comply with the CWA.

DNR Owed Over \$400K in Fines

The DNR has yet to collect \$401,154 in unpaid fines and penalties for industrial and agribusiness violations of state environmental laws reports Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement (CCI). Of that total, nearly \$60,000 is owned by 18 factory farms.



Photo iQconcept/Shutterstock.com

Some of the fines go back 10 years.

DNR records show that from 2000 to 2013, the number of manure spills charged with a fine or penalty dropped significantly. In 2001, 80% of all manure spills received fines says CCI. That number dropped to 15% in 2013.

"Our water continues to become more polluted, we have an increasing number of manure spills, an inadequate number of inspectors, and factory farms are getting away with a slap on the wrist for polluting our water," says CCI's Barb Kalbach, a fourth generation farmer.

The Clean Water Act work plan stipulates greater enforcement of factory farm violations. However, a DNR representative recently said enforcement is still lax.

*Supporting JFAN and helping to
protect the way of life for all
Jefferson County residents.*

*Tim Hawthorne and
Laya Schaetzel Hawthorne*



Like JFAN on
Facebook!



JFAN'S GOOD NEIGHBOR GUIDELINES

www.jfaniowa.org

GREEN GOURMET

FRESH JUICE DAILY USING NORWALK BLADELESS JUICER

Indian, Thai & Chinese food with freshly made desserts & lassi
Cooking with **ORGANIC** Paneer, Tofu, Milk, Yogurt, Cilantro, & Vegetables

All food cooked in **Non-GMO Organic Sunflower Oil** • Food cooked in 11.5 pH alkaline water • Meat washed in 2.5 acid water • Alkaline tea & drinks

117 E. Broadway, Fairfield
11:30 am – 3:30 pm Mon-Sat
Catering Available!

641-472-2277 or 641-451-7009
www.greengourmetrestaurant.com
lsingh227@gmail.com

Nestlé Announces Sweeping Animal Welfare Reforms

Nestlé, the world's largest food company, announced an extensive animal welfare initiative in August that will phase out gestation crates, battery cages, and veal crates within its worldwide supply chain. The food giant will also ban practices such as cutting horns, docking tails, and castrating livestock without painkillers, reports The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS).

Nestlé's reforms, considered one of the most ambitious and comprehensive programs addressing animal welfare, will filter down to its approximately 7300 worldwide suppliers.

The food giant is also promoting Meatless Monday, an HSUS program designed to foster food sustainability by cutting down on meat consumption, on its Lean Cuisine packaging.

Nestlé developed its new policy after discussions with HSUS, Mercy for Animals, and World Animal Protection. It will work with SGS, an independent auditor and World Animal Protection to ensure its new animal standards are met reports the *Chicago Tribune*.

Federal Complaint: CAFOs Discriminate Against Minorities

North Carolina hog farms discriminate against ethnic minorities, says four environmental groups, lodging a federal complaint against the North Carolina Department of Environmental and Natural Resources (DENR) reports the *Raleigh News & Observer*.

The 48-page complaint says the odor and pollution from hog confinements disproportionately affect African Americans, Latinos and Native Americans who are 1.5 times more likely to live in low-income

homes within three miles of a CAFO.

The Washington, DC group Earthjustice joins three North Carolina organizations, Rural Empowerment Association for Community Help, North Carolina Environmental Justice Network, and Waterkeeper Alliance, requesting the



Photo: Richard Cavalleri/Shutterstock.com

Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Civil Rights investigate the alleged violations before releasing federal funding to DEMR. The agency received \$19.3 million in EPA funding in fiscal year 2014.

The groups say that while the discrimination is not intentional, the siting of CAFOs in areas with a higher percentage of ethnic minorities amounts to discrimination. In addition, "Complainants believe that but for the race and national origin of the impacted population, which is disproportionately African American, Latino, and Native American, DENR would be more responsive to the crying need for stronger permit conditions," says the complaint.

The complaint also alleges that residents are suffering from asthma and sinus problems from the hog confinement odors and that their quality of life is affected. Fish in local streams develop open sores and infections causing local residents to lose a food source for their families.

DENR is reviewing the complaint. "This civil rights process is ... not something we deal with very much," said DENR spokesman Drew Elliot in the *News & Observer* article.

WOTUS *continued from p. 7*

stream waters are already covered by the CWA and the rule doesn't expand jurisdiction. Puddles, never in the CWA jurisdiction, wouldn't be regulated now nor would wet areas on crop fields, groundwater, or drainage tile systems.

Other myths floating around, such as requiring permits to walk cows across a wet field or stream; regulating ponds in the middle of farms; requiring permits to apply fertilizers or pesticides to fields; and regulating rainwater that fall on lawns, farm fields, or playgrounds, are simply not true, the EPA says.

Guebert says WOTUS has become a political tool many in Congress are using against President Obama who recently said he would veto a House bill that would prevent the EPA and Corp of Engineers from finalizing the ongoing WOTUS rule-making, reports CRA.

Environmental groups say the rule will be a boon for US waters.

"By providing clarity on what constitutes protected Waters of the United States, the EPA has an opportunity to ensure that the rule will provide greater opportunities for farmers and ranchers to partner with USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service conservation programs to better utilize sustainable agriculture practices to enhance water quality," says Crabtree. "And the rule can help reduce some of the economic burden currently faced by many small towns in improving drinking water quality."

The comment period for WOTUS is open until October 20.

To sign a petition and make a comment, visit: <http://bit.ly/1u0rGnf>



Blue fish

An Eclectic Boutique
New items added daily!

Open 11am - 5pm - Mon. - Sat.
58 S. Main St,
Fairfield, IA 52556
www.bluefishclothing.com
800.395.4566



**RADIANT
HEALTH
IMAGING**

Clinical Thermography
Specializing in Full Body Scans

Pam Ryerse, CCTII, MLT Certified Thermography Tech
641-469-6081 info@radianthealthimaging.com
www.radianthealthimaging.com

TPP *continued from p. 5*

Rosa DeLauro is another outspoken opponent of TPP who sees it as a continuation of NAFTA; in a recent interview she raised the specter of the 800,000 jobs lost in NAFTA, spoke of jeopardized food safety and consumer protection, unfair-competition, and a slew of other consumer issues raised by TPP, before confidently writing off the possibility of Fast Track.

And American opposition to TPP isn't limited to the Political Left; November 2013 saw twenty-three House Republicans issue a letter against granting of Fast Track. In an internet radio interview, the leader of that group, Rep. Walter Jones (R-NC), called TPP a "total sell-out of American sovereignty."

Opposition to TPP is hardly confined to the halls of the Capitol Building. The National Farmers Union (NFU) has been fighting the TPP in one way or another since negotiations began. A 2013 joint statement from the NFU and its Japanese counterpart, JA Zenchu, said that the publicized TPP framework "seems to lack any effort toward supporting farmers and minimizing the effects inflicted upon them[...]. It is both unfair and unacceptable to put the interests of multinational corporations above those of farmers who are forced to sell at a minimal farm-gate price."

The National Family Farm Coalition (NFFC) locates TPP as part of a trend of liberalization that "deprive nations of the right to protect their food systems" resulting in "collapsed" domestic food production alongside "record profits" for agribusiness. And criticism of the TPP isn't solely in the agricultural arena; opposition to the TPP stretches across issues as diverse as labor, the environment, internet freedoms, and consumer groups on the grounds that secrecy and regulatory coherence benefits corporations at the expense of people.

TPP's Endgame

TPP negotiations are entering their endgame. Following a trade minister's meeting in May, President Obama set a loose goal of having "something that we have consulted with Congress about, that the public can take a look at, and we can

make a forceful argument to go ahead and close the deal" by the annual Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meeting in November. In July, negotiators for the 12 countries involved met at a hastily announced meeting in Ottawa, Canada. Another negotiating session is planned for September 1 to 10 in Hanoi,



with an additional ministerial meeting scheduled for October.

Meanwhile, US TPP proponents are fighting for the passage of Trade Promotion Authority. After the July negotiators' meeting, every Republican on the Ways and Means Committee signed a letter threatening to withhold support from TPP if negotiations were completed "even in principle" without TPA being secured first. At a recent trade forum, the two Congressional co-chairs of the House Friends of the TPP Caucus claimed that TPA would come to a vote in the Lame Duck session of Congress following the November elections. It could come up even sooner, if the Obama administration takes the House Republicans demands seriously.

The TPP could have far reaching effects on global food supplies beyond meat and dairy. Several countries' GMO laws could be affected, for example. New Zealand has fairly comprehensive laws on labeling GMOs in processed foods, and doesn't allow genetically modified fresh vegetables, fruit or meat at all. Japan and Australia both have comprehensive labeling laws for GMOs as well.

Peru is in the middle of a push for similar GMO labeling legislation, but already has a ten-year ban on planting genetically modified crops instituted in 2013. In the

logic underlying the TPP, these are "barriers" to trade rather than public health measures or a legitimate consumer information practices. Under this logic, the European Union lost a WTO challenge by the US, Canada and Argentina to its 1999-2003 moratorium on the import of GM products. TPP may open the door to

GMO policies in those 12 countries being overturned as well, either through rules in the agreement itself or through the investor-state dispute settlement process.

USTR's battle against labeling isn't confined to concerns over GMOs. Peru and Chile both have comprehensive labeling laws for foods high in saturated fats, calories, salt, sugar and other additives. Peru's laws include prohibitions against advertising aimed at children, and Chile's laws specifically target foods "popular with children." Despite the fact these laws seem to take cues from US efforts to keep consumers in general

and children in particular away from dangerous products, USTR posits that both are barriers.

USTR, with a coalition of 11 other countries, was successful in effectively neutering Chile's labeling law, reducing the size and boldness of the label, exempting several categories of products from the labeling scheme, and replacing the locally written text of the warning with text tying into WTO standards. And the TPP cuts both ways; activists and lawmakers in the US looking to affect GMOs and food labels through policy would be just as bound by TPP policies as these other countries. With the TPP's focus on overcoming "barriers" to trade, states' efforts to protect consumer information, encourage public health, and legislate new food technologies are at risk.

New Century, Same As the Old?

At the end of the day, what really makes TPP the "21st-century agreement" it's purported to be? Not much except for scale, it seems. The regulatory focus, the ISDS measures, the rhetoric around the goodness of free trade flying around while the deal knee-caps countries' efforts to promote public health, local economies, and food security in the name of profit; these are all features of the neoliberal

politics of the 80s and 90s, but TPP threatens to take them further.

In 2008, then-candidate Obama described his disagreement with NAFTA. "While NAFTA gave broad rights to investors," he said, "it paid only lip service to the rights of labor and the importance of environmental protection." Ironically, the TPP negotiations today give corporations far more than "broad rights." "Having seen what I've seen, I would characterize this as a gross abrogation of American sovereignty,"

Rep. Alan Grayson told the *Huffington Post* after finally getting a look at the TPP texts, "And I would further characterize it as a punch in the face to the middle class of America. I think that's fair to say from what I've seen so far. But I'm not allowed to tell you why."

Ultimately, what we see in the TPP isn't anything futuristic, but a double down on old, bad ideas. The level of secrecy is unprecedented, the power given to corporate advisors and experts is unprecedented, and the work to dismantle local regulation goes further than any deal we've seen before. The choice inherent in the notion of a "21st-Century Trade Deal," is who the 21st century belongs to—will food policy continue to go down the road of 20th-century neoliberalism that never really worked, or will it be decided by consumers and the officials they elected to represent their interests?

What Can You Do?

If you oppose the TPP, you can send legislators four important messages:

Oppose Fast-Track: Fast Track allows USTR to negotiate trade agreements behind closed doors, and then rush them through Congress circumventing ordinary review, amendment and debate procedures. To create policies that are accountable to people, not just big corporations, Fast Track must be eliminated.

No More Secrecy: The people have a right to know what USTR is negotiating in their name.

Special Provisions for Food and Ag in Agreements: Small farmers deserve protection, and food safety standards aren't simply "barriers" to be knocked down. Our food systems, the people whose livelihoods depend on them, and the consumers who support them deserve protection from the whims of the international market.

Oppose the TPP: It's a double down on old, bad ideas done in secrecy and dependent on the outdated fast-track model. We want an actual 21st-century Trade Agreement!

As a member of the Citizens Trade Campaign (CTC), IATP recommends contacting your congress person through the CTC website at www.citizenstrade.org. Click on the "Take Action" button on the right side of the page to send a message to your local congress person. Together, we can ensure that the 21st century belongs to people, not corporations.

See more at: <http://tinyurl.com/pdv3gjf>

Reprinted by permission Institute of Agriculture and Trade Policy. The full article with citations at: <http://tinyurl.com/lbjbzax>

MAIL IN DONATION FORM

Please cut out this form and mail it with your tax-deductible donation to:

JFAN, Inc. • P.O. Box 811 • Fairfield, IA 52556

Donation Amount: ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500
☐ \$ _____

Name _____

Street _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ **Email** _____

Checks payable to: Jefferson County Farmers & Neighbors, Inc.

Donate Online

To make a credit card donation using PayPal, go to www.jfaniowa.org

Click on "Donate Today."

Monthly donation option now available!

Make a Donation!

Please support JFAN with your generous tax-deductible donation. JFAN has been approved by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) tax exempt educational foundation. All donations to JFAN are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. Please consult with your personal tax advisor about any questions you may have about your donation. JFAN will send out receipts only for donations over \$250.

Thank you for all you do to support JFAN!

A Message to JFAN Supporters from JFAN President David E. Sykes

At this time, we are facing a far more aggressive CAFO situation in Southeast Iowa and Jefferson County than the past. We are not only dealing with local CAFO operators, but corporate suppliers, called integrators, who are getting more actively involved in establishing new CAFOs.

While our CAFO numbers don't come close to Washington County's one million hogs or Keokuk County's quarter million, CAFO development has nonetheless quickly grown during these past couple of years. Just this year alone, nine new CAFOs are going up in the rural areas of our county, with the closest being 3-4 miles away from Fairfield and Maharishi Vedic City.

We also know from various reliable sources that JFAN has been effective in keeping many other confinements out of Jefferson County. It is very likely we would be overrun with CAFOs without JFAN. Nonetheless, this is still a very serious concern.

We must take a strong position to stop this development, otherwise the cumulative impacts on rural Jefferson County, Fairfield, and Maharishi Vedic City will deteriorate our valued quality of life. JFAN will not allow that to happen.

As president, I want to foster a stronger and even more active JFAN. I will continue to work in partnership with our Executive Director, Diane Rosenberg, who leads the charge in all our projects and programs. My goal is to support all her excellent efforts and activities in managing JFAN and give her the room and assistance to develop new initiatives with the JFAN Board of Directors behind her. We are already actively discussing new approaches to take.

Education is a key component in the CAFO fight. It's essential to empower community members to know how and when to stand up to CAFOs invading their neighborhoods. JFAN will continue to educate county residents about how their health, quality of life, property values, water quality, and environment are negatively impacted by factory farms..

CAFO operators and their corporate integrators are attempting to present themselves as modern "family farmers." But in reality, over the past 20 years or so, CAFO operators and their integrators have eliminated 95% of independent traditional family farms that used to be an integral part of our local community.

Agribusinesses and commodity organizations have drastically altered the rich traditional farming industry enjoyed in Iowa until recently, and they are rewriting what it means to be a farmer. They are attempting to sell this concept to consumers and the public. Unlike family farms that existed in harmony with the land for hundreds of years, factory farms create a host of problems for communities and the environment – all of which are unfortunate and preventable.

We have to educate the public about this deceptive advertising approach being taken by industrial agriculture. We will also employ other approaches to stand up to this increased CAFO development.

It will take courage and fortitude to stand up to the "new" industrial agricultural model to save the soul of Iowa. JFAN is gearing up to meet that challenge to the best of its ability.

Organic, local dairy products... Straight from the farm



Radiance Dairy

Whole Milk
2% Milk
Skim Milk
Cream
Whole Yogurt
Skim Yogurt
Radiance Jack Cheese
Panir
Ricotta Cheese

Available locally at
Everybody's, HyVee,
Golden Dome Market
and area restaurants