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**FFA ENRICHMENT CENTER OPENS IN ANKENY**

**(Ankeny, Iowa) – FFA members in Iowa have a new place to call home. And what a place it is.**

**The FFA Enrichment Center officially opened on April 17, 2010, thanks to tireless fundraising efforts by and on behalf of Iowa FFA members. After more than a decade of planning, and thanks to the support of local FFA chapters; business and industry sponsors; and generous individuals, the Iowa FFA Foundation celebrated the opening of the Center with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, sponsor recognition, and tours of the facility.**

**“The FFA Enrichment Center will provide generations of Iowa’s FFA members with an unequaled environment for learning, leadership development and personal growth,” says Wayne Nattress, Executive Director of the Iowa FFA Foundation. “The Center’s opening is a dream come true for the numerous FFA supporters who have envisioned this state-of –the art facility for many years.”**

**Located on the campus of Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) in Ankeny, the FFA Enrichment Center is a multi-purpose conference, training and education center. It provides more than 20,000 square feet of meeting space that can comfortably accommodate groups from 10 to 500 people. The facility includes two large conference rooms that can be opened to create an 8,600-square-foot ballroom; six classroom-style meeting rooms; a computer communications center; a board room; and an open, two-story, atrium-style exhibit hall. The Center also houses the headquarters of the Iowa FFA Foundation; the DMACC agribusiness and veterinary technology programs; and sleeping quarters and workspace for the Iowa FFA officer team.**

**In addition to Iowa FFA members, the Enrichment Center is designed to serve affiliated agricultural education organizations; other education groups; DMACC continuing education programs; agribusinesses and agricultural associations; and the general public. The facility is available for rent by contacting the FFA Enrichment Center Director Angela Fredericks at 515/965-7372.**

**At the April ribbon-cutting ceremony, leading sponsors whose support made the Center a reality were recognized.**

“Crystal” sponsors who provided outstanding financial support for the FFA Enrichment Center included Stine Seed Company; Dennis & Susan Albaugh; the City of Ankeny; Des Moines Area Community College; Monsanto Company; and the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation. Additional key sponsors included John Deere Des Moines Works & John Deere Credit; Pioneer Hi-Bred, a DuPont business; Terra Industries; Cargill; GROWMARK, Inc.; Nationwide Foundation/Allied Insurance; and Steve Juelsgaard.

The prestigious **"High 5"** status was granted to FFA chapters that raised a minimum of $5,000 for the FFA Enrichment Center. Those chapters included Adair-Casey FFA Chapter at Adair; Algona FFA Chapter; Audubon FFA Chapter; Benton Community FFA Chapter at Van Horne; Boone A&M FFA Chapter; Carroll Area FFA Chapter; Central Lee FFA Chapter at Donnellson; Collins-Maxwell FFA Chapter at Maxwell; Colo-Nesco FFA Chapter at Colo; Columbus FFA Chapter at Columbus Junction; East Sac FFA Chapter at Lake View; Elk Horn-Kimballton FFA Chapter at Elk Horn, Emmetsburg FFA Chapter, Fairfield FFA Chapter, Harlan FFA Chapter; Louise-Muscatine FFA Chapter at Letts; Lynnville Sully FFA Chapter at Sully; Maple Valley FFA Chapter at Mapleton; Monticello FFA Chapter; Nashua-Plainfield FFA Chapter at Nashua; Newton FFA Chapter; Northeast Hamilton FFA Chapter at Blairsburg; Panorama FFA Chapter at Panora; Pleasantville FFA Chapter; Prairie Valley FFA Chapter at Gowrie; Reno Smith FFA Chapter at Villisca; Seymour FFA Chapter; Southeast Polk FFA Chapter at Pleasant Hill; Tri-Center FFA Chapter at Neola; Wapsie Valley FFA Chapter at Fairbank; West Liberty FFA Chapter; West Lyon FFA Chapter at Inwood; and Winterset FFA Chapter.

More information about the FFA Enrichment Center can be found at [http://www.ffaenrichmentcenter.com](http://www.ffaenrichmentcenter.com/).

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