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Thirty participants attend first-ever MJCA Beef Leadership Conference

(Columbia, MO) – The Missouri Cattlemen's Association hosted 30 Missouri Junior Cattlemen on June 4-6 for the first-ever MJCA Beef Leadership Conference at their headquarters in Columbia.

The conference began at 12:30 on Thursday afternoon at the Missouri Cattlemen's Association headquarters. The participants got to know each other through icebreakers and listened to two speakers. They then went bowling at Empire Rolling Rink in Columbia.

Friday morning, the participants visited South Farm in Columbia and the University of Missouri's School of Veterinary Medicine to tour the facility and to learn about different aspects of the beef industry, including media training, reproduction, and beef quality assurance. That evening, the group went to Buckman Farms for a tour, dinner and a dance.

The last part of the conference was Saturday morning. Back at the MCA headquarters, the students looked into MCA and the Missouri Beef Industry Council, debated on current agriculture issues, and reflected on the conference. The conference ended Saturday at noon.

Those who participated in the MJCA Beef Leadership Conference were: Kathryn and Jacob Coon, Miriam Martin, Shelby County; Joel Butler, Green County; Zane Volkmann, Ryan Borges, Austin Fuhlage, Howard County; Cooper Black, Henry County; Travis Luther, Ray County; Joseph Lolli, Macon County; Alex Nuelle and Evan Hoepfner, Lafayette County; Adam Birk, Cape Girardeau County; Elaine Martin, Boone County; Megan and Heather Murry, Texas County; Kaitlin Fifer, Cass County; Megan Mayfield, Dallas County; Nicole Kraft, Marion County; Sara Hoffman, Lewis County; Shannon Yokley, Cole County; Chelsea Merriott, Morgan County; Cortney Hindman and Elle Miller, Moniteau County; Garth Gatson, Ralls County; Justin and Kyle Vehige, Osage County.

The MJCA Board of Directors was represented by: Garren Bellis, president, Orrick, Mo.; Rachel Bartholomew, vice president of activities, Columbia, Mo.; Anna James, vice president of fundraising, Paris, Mo.; Jocelyn Butler, Secretary/Treasurer, Republic, Mo.; Tyler Richter, membership and leadership coordinator, Steelville, Mo.; Sarah Ray, northeast representative, Paris, Mo.; Austin Black, southwest representative, Deepwater, Mo.; Austin Sayre, at-large representative, Stotts City, Mo.; Jordan Hunter, ex-officio, Fair Grove, Mo.; Kristen Wright, Missouri Beef Queen, Tuscumbia, Mo.

The MJCA Beef Leadership Conference was sponsored by Lewis and Marion County Cattlemen, Crawford County, Monroe County Service Company, Paris Veterinary Clinic, Inc., Buckman Farms/Machinery, Chapel View Stables, Sydenstricker Angus, Shelter Insurance: Agent Dana Richter, Paris FFA, Ray County Cattlemen, The Word's Out - Brenda Black, Moniteau County Cattlemen, Ozark Farm & Neighbor, Midwest Cattlemen, The Case Company, and Southwest Cattlemen's Association.

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The Missouri Cattlemen's Association was initiated in 1911 and is dedicated to improving profitability of Missouri's cattle industry. MCA will work tirelessly to promote, preserve and protect the future of our great cattle industry and the people who depend on us. To join, contact MCA at 573-499-9162 or at www.mocattle.com.