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Media Advisory: Minnesota Farmers Union (MFU) members joining others in Washington, D.C. to be a voice for family farmers.

WHAT: With Congress back in session and a potential government shut down looming, Farmers Union farm delegates from around the country will be heading to Washington D.C. to lobby for family farmers, and make sure that Congressional leaders have family farmers in mind when they push to get many bills passed in the final hours. Thirty-nine Minnesotans are heading out to Washington, D.C. to tell Congressional leaders and White House staff what is affecting family farmers here at home. Items of discussion include: Country-of-Origin Labeling (COOL), Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS), and the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). Farmers Union members will be meeting with senators and representatives, and will also meet with officials from the United States Department of Agriculture.

WHEN: Wednesday September 16 - Friday, September 18

WHO: Jay and Janelle Swanson of Thief River Falls; Richard Moen of Clearbrook; Ross Eischens of Minneota; Markell Vogt of Palisade; Michael and Linda Frost of Pine Island; Alan Perish of Browerville; Adeline Wooliscroft and Alton Walker of Bagley; Carol Anderson of Foley; Anne Schwagerl of Browns Valley; Marvin and Marlys Jensen of Kensington; FFA leader Rita Olson of Halstad; FFA students Amanda Tomerdahl of Hendrum, and Brandi Lee of Holstad; Agriculture educator Mark Stone of Prior Lake, Gene Paul of Delavan, with NFO; with the Farmers Union Enterprises' Young Couples Program, Steve and Jodi Read of Nerstrand; MFU FFA essay winner, Anna Buckentine and her mother Jeanie of Moorhead; with the NFU Next Generation Advisory Council, Jennifer Klabunde and her husband Bryan, from Waubun.

Plus MFU staff: Doug Peterson MFU President, and his wife Elly, of Madison; Gary Wertish, MFU Vice President of Renville; Rodney Allebach, Farmers Union Agency President and his wife Linda, of Otsego; Field Representative Ken Pazdernik, and his wife Cheryl of Ada; Public Affairs Director Amanda Valencia of Forest Lake; and Government Relations Director Thom Petersen of Pine City.

Call Public Affairs Director 651-288-4068 or 651-900-3131 if you have any questions, or would like to speak to one of our members during the fly-in.

Minnesota Farmers Union, Standing for Agriculture, Fighting for Farmers,
(www.mfu.org).
