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Stanton Set to Host Evolution of the Heartland

June 10, Stanton, IA – The Western Iowa community of Stanton is excited to host a unique agritourism event called ‘Evolution of the Heartland,’ in its third year of conception. On September 12, 2024, this immersive experience will showcase the heart of America’s rural communities and the evolution of agriculture to those who are unfamiliar with rural Iowa and especially agriculture, as well as those who have an interest in learning more about the innovative ag advancements in the state.

All are welcome to register for this unique event. Participants have the option to travel from the Omaha metro area on a charter bus or drive themselves to the Old Lumber Yard Event Center to join the bus for immersive rural Iowa tours.

Immersive tours will happen in the morning and the afternoon and include four locations from around the Stanton community. *Hydroponic Harvest* will showcase TureFood’s state-of-the-art hydroponic greenhouse that cultivates clean, flavorful produce. TrueFood has a vision to grow alongside local communities and bring the future of food to small towns across the United States.

Participants of Fruits of the Land will embark on a Swiss-German experience at Whitetail Valley Farm. Specializing in apple wine, Whitetail Valley Cellars Winery is constructing a Swiss tasting room. The orchard grows over 60 varieties of modern and vintage fruit trees in a traditional Swiss German style called ‘Streuobstwiese,’ a Meadow Orchard. Grampaw’s Pumpkin patch markets pumpkins, fall melons, squash, and gourds in a family friendly space.

Fika and Folklore will showcase the Swedish journey to Stanton. Attendees will witness how generations of immigrants have shaped the rural landscape of Stanton. The tour will include a visit to the Swedish Heritage & Cultural Center, tour of a restored classroom, gift shop and the world’s largest Swedish Coffee Pot and Swedish Cup and Saucer. The tour will explore the enduring power of immigration and its role in building the heartland.

On the Technology and Innovation Tour, Participants will get to visit the Stanton Technology Park and Dreyer Bros will showcase the latest technology in aerial drone application and other precision technologies on the farm. The tour will also feature 3-D printing technology being used to expand the community.

Participants will get a *taste* of rural Iowa at a Main Street luncheon at The Old Lumber Yard event center featuring a main course from Gibbs Chop House and with sides and dessert from Fika Coffee House. While dining, participants will be able to network and converse with local entrepreneurs. Then attendees will have time to explore downtown Stanton and visit local retailers.

After a full day of learning and networking, participants will hear closing remarks at Gibbs Chop House. The cost to attend the event is \$175 until August 1st, with Early Bird registration. Group discount rates are available for 5 or

WWW.EVOLUTIONOFTHEHEARTLAND.COM

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EVOLUTION  OF THE
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An Immersive, Rural Iowa Experience

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more. Registration is currently open and closes September 1st or when all spots have been reserved. Participants can register at www.evolutionoftheheartland.com.

Stanton Community Development Director, Jenna Ramsey, shares, “The Stanton Community welcomes all to the area is excited to showcase many of the great happening in the Stanton area! Join us for the day and see all of the great things Stanton has to offer.”

Join the Evolution of the Heartland Stanton tours and discover what the future holds for rural Iowa and the agricultural industry. The Stanton event is made possible by the following sponsors, Travel Iowa, Iowa Food & Family Project, Aureon, Iowa Corn District 7, MidAmerican, and Emerge Marketing Solutions.

Opportunities for local and statewide sponsorships, as well as prospective 2025 community event hosts, are actively being pursued. For more information on the Stanton event, please contact Jenna Ramsey, Stanton Community Development Director, at jramsey@fmtcnet.com. For more Evolution of the Heartland information, please complete the online forms or contact event coordinator, Annie Greve, at info@evolutionoftheheartland.com. Follow along with event updates on Facebook and Instagram @evolutionoftheheartland to learn more.

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2023 Evolution of the Heartland participants at Puck Enterprises, in Manning, Iowa and Iowa Yak Ranch, near Exira, Iowa.

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