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Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 25, 2010

Media Contact: Amy Pettit, 907-761-3864
Division of Agriculture

2010 Alaska State Fair Farm Family of the Year Nominations being accepted

(Anchorage, AK) –The Alaska State Fair and the agricultural community want to applaud the efforts of Alaska farmers by honoring one family that epitomizes the spirit of the vibrant industry.

We need the public's help in nominating friends and neighbors for the 11th Annual Farm Family of the Year award. The Alaska State Fair established the award in 2000 to honor an Alaska farming family and show appreciation for all the hardworking Alaskans committed to agriculture and aquaculture in the state.

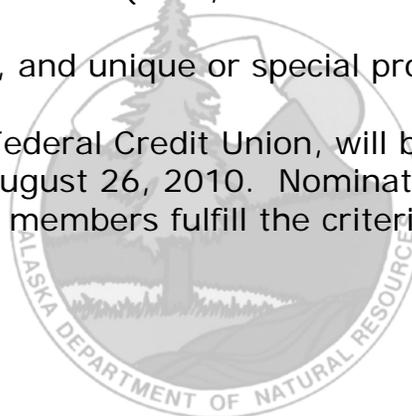
The 2009 recipients were the Oberg-Kenley Family who have been passionately involved in Alaska agriculture since 1954.

The selection committee is comprised of members from the Farm Services Agency, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the University of Alaska Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station, the state Division of Agriculture, and the Cooperative Extension Service.

The Farm Family selection committee will accept nominations and select a family using the following criteria:

1. Production of quality Alaska Grown products (not based on quantity);
2. Community involvement (civic organizations, school, sports, church);
3. Involvement in agricultural industry organizations (local, state and federal, etc.) and,
4. Overall farm family image, farming history, and unique or special production.

The award, sponsored by the Matanuska Valley Federal Credit Union, will be presented at the Fair Board Reception on Governors Day, August 26, 2010. Nominations should offer details about the family and how the family members fulfill the criteria. The nomination should be mailed to:



Amy Pettit – Farm Family
Alaska Division of Agriculture
1800 Glenn Hwy, Ste. 12
Palmer, AK 99645

Nominations may also be faxed to (907) 745-7254 or emailed to: Amy Pettit at Amy.Pettit@alaska.gov

The deadline for nominations is June 30, 2010.

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