



## Niece of Cal Halstead, Feed Energy Sales Director, Competes on “The Voice”



On the October 7 telecast of the NBC show “The Voice” EllieMae Millenkamp was a contestant in the “Blind Auditions”. EllieMae is the niece of Cal Halstead, Feed Energy Sales Director. The song she sang was “Merry Go ‘Round” by Kacey Musgraves. About 44 seconds into the song judge Blake Shelton turned his chair around meaning EllieMae passed the audition and was chosen to move on to the next round as a member of “Team Blake”.

EllieMae is the daughter of Bill and Susie Millenkamp. Bill is the brother of Cal’s wife, Molly. EllieMae is 21 years old and was born and raised in Jerome, Idaho on a 15,000 acre dairy farm. Cal said she started singing in the church choir and taught herself to play guitar when she was in the seventh grade.

EllieMae is now a senior at Iowa State majoring in agriculture business. It was at ISU where she met a producer from the show who encouraged her to audition for The Voice. She decided to take him up on the offer and auditioned in an open call but didn’t make it through. Fortunately, some staff members on the show thought she deserved a second chance and invited ElliMae back for a second try out. This time she made the cut and was invited out to Las Angeles last summer for the taping of “Blind Audition”.

Although she did not make it past the second round of the competition, singing in front of an audience of millions of TV viewers was an incredible life changing experience for her.

Congratulations to EllieMae! Happy for you and your talented family, Cal – actually Molly’s talented family.



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