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Photo & News Release

Contact: Teresa Wiemerslage, Communications Coordinator, wiemer@iastate.edu, 563-794-0599

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Caption: Members of Iowa's All Star 4-H Dairy Judging Team (left to right): Lars Sivesind, Allamakee County; Tyler Fisher, Clayton County; Gina Fisher, Clayton County; Courtney Ehrlich, Dubuque County.

Local 4-H'ers Place at National 4-H Livestock Events

NORTHEAST IOWA – Iowa 4-H teams took high honors at several recent national judging events, according to Mike Anderson, 4-H agriculture program coordinator with Iowa State University Extension.

In November, Iowa's All Star 4-H dairy judging team traveled to Louisville where they competed in the National Dairy Judging Contest, and team member Lars Sivesind of Allamakee County placed eighth overall in individual rankings. The Iowa team placed seventh out of 25 teams. Other members included Courtney Ehrlich, Dubuque County; Gina Fisher, Clayton County; and Tyler Fisher, Clayton County. The team was coached by Lee Kilmer.

The Fayette County Dairy Quiz Bowl team represented Iowa, placing fourth overall out of 20 teams at November's National Dairy Quiz Bowl contest in Louisville, Ky., Team members included Joey Adams, Logan Worden, Rachel Scott, Brant Wade and Chelsey Fagle. Their coach was Marilyn Steffens.

In October, the top team from Iowa's state level dairy judging competition moved on to the World Dairy Judging Contest in Madison, Wis. Team members included Brad Kruse, Austin Knapp, Rachel Demmer and Emily Neumueller. Jeff Hammerand coached the team.

4-H is a community of 6 million young people across America learning leadership, citizenship and life skills. In Iowa, the 4-H program is a part of Iowa State University Extension and headquartered on the

ISU campus in Ames. For more information about 4-H or how to get involved, contact your ISU Extension county office at 568-6345.

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News Release

Contact: Erin Ludwig, ISU Extension Family Resource Management Field Specialist, eludwig@iastate.edu or 563-380-1475.

Learn Strategies to Gain Control of Finances

The first few months of each year is a time of financial stress and frustration as tax season draws attention to past money management habits. Some may wish they had a better system for tracking expenses. Others may struggle to find the money to pay taxes. Those anticipating a tax refund may wonder how to best use it to achieve financial goals.

“When you have sound information and strong skills for managing money and making financial decisions, then you can use your money effectively to live out your highest priorities,” says Erin, Iowa State University Extension Family Resource Management Specialist.

Iowa State University Extension offers a personal financial management series each month to share strategies for tracking expenses as well as other tips to help gain control of finances. The online class called “Budget Basics” is offered one hour a week for three weeks.

Week one will cover setting goals, managing unexpected and periodical expenses, and savings. Week two will talk about tracking spending, creating a budget, decreasing expenses and increasing income. The third week discusses types of credit, ways to manage credit, predatory lending and resources for the consumer.

The class is offered on Mondays from Noon - 1:00 p.m. or 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. on February 7, 14 and 21. Participants need a computer with internet access to take the class. The class is live and interactive. Participants can see the instructor and ask questions via the chat box. If you miss a class, or would like to review a session, participants will receive information on how to view the recorded class. Upon registration, participants will receive a web link to class materials and log-in instructions by email.

For more information, visit your local ISU Extension office or contact Erin Ludwig at eludwig@iastate.edu or 563-580-1475.

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This information has been sent to you by Teresa Wiemerslage, Regional Communications Coordinator for Region 4 ISU Extension, wiemer@iastate.edu, 563-794-0599.

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