

Howard County FFI meeting Minutes
December 13, 2007
6:00- 7:30 PM
Cresco Bank & Trust

Present: Colleen Peckham, Elaine Govern, Matt Kabliska, Charlie Baier, Joye Meyer, Keith Slifka, Jerry Brown, Mary Steen, Tom Schasuss, Shirley Sovereign, Debbie Oulman, Chris Govern, Sheyel Noble, Kathy Tesmer, Brian Ney, Pat Bouska, Lauren Merritt, Penny Hughes, Jan Kreitzer, Mary Lindell, Solveig Hansen, Judy Ryan, Vic McGee, Todd Knobloch, Sherry McAllister, Sue Rawhouse, Sharlene Milewsky, and Mary Novacex.

Welcome by Charlie & Matt. A meal was served of locally grown food using locally grown/produced meats, fruits or vegetables. IE: Apple Pie, Soup, hot dish, garden canning, salad, venison, pork, beef, bread, etc. The food was prepared by people attending the meeting. People introduced themselves and told what food they prepared for this meal.

Charlie then reviewed the NE Iowa FFI vision and goals. Matt talked about what tonight's program would be and introduced the speakers.

The group listened to a presentation from Jane Schadle - Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH). Jane discussed how the Food & Fitness initiative is viewed by IDPH. She also talked about the priorities of Public Health in Iowa.

Next we had a presentation from Yvonne and Ken Barnes regarding the Winneshiek Wildberry Winery. We had a taste test of wine from this winery/producer and they answered questions about starting a winery and wine making.

Next we had a presentation from Solveig Hansen (Grown Locally). She talked about USDA inspection and what is acceptable for schools, hospitals, etc., to serve from local producers. She talked about the Grown Locally program and their facilities.

Matt conducted a survey of the group to select the winners of the best tasting, most creative, dish utilizing the most locally grown products and best dessert. Prizes were given to the winners.

Wrap-Up: We thanked everyone for sharing their time and ideas. The January meeting will be January 17, 2008 location to be determined.

Everyone was encouraged to complete their evaluations. The meeting ended at 7:40 pm. A meeting with school representatives followed at 7:40.