



ISU Extension Programs Make a Difference

Quarterly Program Report: April-June 2011

Dairy Center Hosts 600 for Breakfast



Organizers of the recent Breakfast on the Farm at the Dairy Center at Calmar planned for 500 but served more than 600.

Visitors loved the food and several remarked that they were surprised at how clean the dairy farm was that day. Trams pulled by vintage tractors took visitors on tours of the dairy farm. The second year for the event, the goal was to introduce the public to modern dairy production practices.

Typical guest included 6-year-old Matthew and 12-year-old Shaina Bakken who came with their parents Paula and Alan. Shaina has been to the Dairy Center with her class for Iowa's Dairy Story, and she told her parents what she learned during the tram tour.

Fifty volunteers worked the breakfast.

Face of the Farmer

Postville students had some special guests during lunch this semester. Four local farmers joined the students during lunch to talk about the foods they grown on their farms as part of the NE Iowa Farm to School project. The featured foods were served during lunch. While the students dined on apple crisp, cucumbers, yogurt and asparagus, the farmers visited with students and talked about where their food comes from.

Farmer Vince Spain (pictured) visits with youngsters about oats and how he uses them for animal feed on his farm.



Smart Investing @ Your Library

Three public libraries hosted a personal investment class as part of a new statewide program called "Smart Investing @ Your Library." The six-week blended classes involved two face-to-face sessions taught by ISU Extension Family Finance program specialists and an online course.

Pre- and post-surveys indicate that participants not only increased their knowledge about investing, but also took action. For example, there was a 27 percentage point increase in the number of participants who had made a "ballpark estimate" of their retirement savings needs and a 36 percentage point increase in the number who had developed an investment philosophy and assessed their risk tolerance.

Honoring Those Who Served



4-H members from Allamakee and Howard County placed a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns as part of the two-year Northeast Iowa 4-H Citizenship project. Youth from all six counties participate in this popular

program on a staggered schedule. The project culminates with an annual trip to Washington, DC.

New Faces—New Roles

Brian Lang, ISU Agronomist for Region 4 has new state-wide responsibilities for forage programming.



Terry Basol joined ISU Extension as an agronomist for Howard and Chickasaw County. Terry is housed at the Borlaug Learning Center in Nashua.

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