



County Extension Staff

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Field Specialists Serving Cedar County

Agriculture

Greg Brenneman, Ag Engineer
Denise Schwab, Beef/Livestock
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Virgil Schmitt, Crops
Jim Jensen, Farm Management
Larry McMullen, Swine

Community/Economic Development

Paul Gormley, Business & Industry
Program Builder web site:
<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/programbuilder/>

Families

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Youth & 4-H

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Iowa State University Extension in Cedar County provides relevant programs that support healthy people, healthy environments, and healthy economies. Read about some of the ways ISU Extension meets local needs, improves quality of life, and helps make Cedar County a better place to live.

Mike Boyle
Extension Council Chair
Cedar County

Bob Owen
County Extension Education Director
Cedar & Muscatine Counties

Parenting education offered by Families First of Cedar County



Two **Building Successful Youth** parent education series were completed and one Family Night was held during the 2006-2007 school year. The first six session series was conducted in West Branch at Hoover Elementary School. A second series met at the Middle School in Tipton. Twenty-two parents completed the series. The format for **Building Successful Youth** included six, 2-hour group-based sessions using the *Active Parenting Now* video-based curriculum.

A special Family Night was held in West Branch where families practiced their interaction skills with activities focused on building responsibility.

Parent education has been offered in Cedar County through funding from Prevent Child Abuse Iowa since 2004. Parent education has been offered in all Cedar County schools. ISU Extension has participated as a part of the Families First coalition since it was created over 20 years ago.

Interest in farmland leasing increases with the bio-economy



Agriculture is full of optimism and excitement due to the development and expansion of the ethanol industry. As a result the rental value of farmland has taken on new interest among land-owners and tenants. Starting in July and through August, ISU Extension held many leasing workshops throughout Iowa. The new Cedar County Extension office was one of those sites with over 60 people in attendance. In

addition to providing printed materials, Extension staff also recommend that those interested in leasing information check out the *Ag Decision Maker* web page located at www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/



Cedar County Extension Council

Left to right—front row: Rhoda Barnhart, Mike Boyle, Tim Dolan, Devin Schroeder. Back row: Jen VanOort, Karen Stueland, Linda Jacobsen, Jean Driscoll, Dr. Alan Beyer.

Every Iowa county has an elected Extension Council that guides local educational programming by partnering with staff. From needs assessment through program implementation and evaluation of outcomes, the council represents the issues and people of the county.



Iowa State University Extension: In sync with Cedar County

Visioning Committee plans for future of Tipton



Eighteen local residents and professionals came together in the spring of 2007 to form the Tipton Community Visioning Committee. Under the guidance of Trees Forever, Field Coordinator, Karen Brook, and with technical assistance from professional Landscape Architect, Meg Flenker and ISU Landscape Architect student interns, a wide variety of community projects were

identified. The ideas ranged from an information kiosk, to new signage, a facelift of the downtown storefronts, and new welcome signs. After a couple of public presentations, the committee narrowed the list of possible projects to a new entry sign as visitors enter Tipton from the east on Highway 130. Locally the process was led by Travis Alden, Community Development Director for the City of Tipton. A complete set of sketches and a feasibility report for the projects considered can be found at: <http://www.tiptoniowa.org/visioning.htm>

Extension Office relocates to larger facility



In early 2007, the Cedar County Extension office entered into a long-term agreement to relocate their office to 107 Cedar Street. The new location provides for larger offices, much needed storage space and a larger meeting room. The office is designed so the meeting room can be used by community groups in the evenings and on the weekends when the Extension office is normally closed.

The office moved the end of May 2007 and an open house was held in late September to invite the public to view the new facilities and visit with Field Specialists that serve Cedar County. Prior to the Open House, the Tipton Chamber of Commerce hosted a networking meeting at which time, Miss Iowa, Diana Reed, explained a Character Counts Initiative being introduced in the Tipton School District

Service Project Commemorates Iowa State University's 150 Years

ISU Extension initiated community service projects in every county to celebrate Iowa State University's 150 years.

In Cedar County, a Food Pantry drive was held in conjunction with the Open House inviting the public to visit the new Extension Office. Those attending were invited to donate a food item or make a monetary contribution. Following the open house the food items and cash donations were distributed to the food pantries located throughout Cedar County.



We connect you to Iowa State University.

We are your local link to make connections for campus enrollment, continuing education, campus visits, campus exhibits, conferences, camps, and sporting events.