



# For the Citizens of Cedar County 2006

## Cedar County Extension

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Cedar and Muscatine County  
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**Vacant**  
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**Agriculture**  
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Patrick O'Malley, Commercial Horticulture  
Virgil Schmitt, Crops  
Jim Jensen, Farm Management  
Larry McMullen, Swine

**Business and Industry**  
Paul Gormley

**Families**  
Wendy Peterson, Family Life  
Vera Stokes, Nutrition & Health  
Phyllis Zalenski, Resource Management

**Youth & 4-H**  
Janet Martin, Youth Development

Iowa State University delivers educational opportunities that make life better, healthier, safer and more profitable for individuals and communities. Here are a few examples of ISU Extension partnerships at work in Cedar County.

**Teen Years Ahead Offered In Four School Districts** Since 2004, North Cedar, Durant-Bennett, and West Branch School Districts have offered a pre-teen parent education program. During 2006, the Tipton School District offered the program for families with youth in grades 4 to 6. The format involves seven, 2-hour group-based sessions, with one of the sessions for both parents and their children. The *Active Parenting Now* and *Active Parenting of Teens* video-based curriculums were used by a trained facilitator in a group setting. Four areas covered in the series included parent-child communication, setting limits, problem-solving, and quality family time. Funding for this program was secured through a Prevent Child Abuse Iowa grant received by Families First of Cedar County.

**Summer Discovery Program** Started in the summer of 2004, the third year of the Summer Discovery again served all eight communities in Cedar County including Durant, West Branch, Tipton, Bennett, Lowden, Stanwood, Mechanicsville, and Clarence.

A \$3,500 grant from the **Community Foundation of Cedar County** was received to help cover the cost of the program. As a result, the program was available to all Cedar County youth at no cost. The Cedar County Extension Council provided the additional costs to operate the program.

Evaluations of the experience were conducted. One parent wrote "My son came home each day excited to show me what he'd done and teach me something new. . . .He's always trying to come up with some new concoction."

Two part-time coordinators and two assistants were hired to deliver the program to more than 250 youth, including activities for the summer long Tipton Tiger Club and Durant Cracker Box programs.



community foundation

**Cedar County**

Affiliated with the Community Foundation  
of the Great River Bend

## Cedar County Extension delivers

In Cedar County, Iowa State University Extension delivers research based educational opportunities to manufacturers, families, youth, agribusinesses, and communities to advance Iowa's economy in the following ways:



Summer Adventure was enjoyed by youth, teen counselors and adult chaperones from Cedar County.



Prior to the annual 4-H Recognition program clubs participated in a pumpkin decorating contest.



### Cedar County Extension Council

Linda Jacobsen, Tipton, Chair  
Jean Driscoll, Mechanicsville, Vice-Chair  
Rhoda Barnhart, West Branch, Secretary  
Devin Schroeder, Clarence, Treasurer

Mike Boyle, Tipton  
Tim Dolan, Tipton  
Mary Ann Mente, Tipton  
Molly Pelzer, Tipton  
Karen Stueland, Tipton,

**4-H Clubs Provide Experiences For All Youth** Through participation in 12 4-H Community Clubs, local youth practice leadership and citizenship skills that help them develop into the community entrepreneurs of tomorrow. These skills are developed through a variety of projects including livestock, woodworking, visual arts, clothing, and food and nutrition. Almost 200 youth participate in the Cedar County 4-H Program. The annual Cedar County Fair, celebrates and recognizes the year long accomplishments of these youth, which are led by more than 30 adult volunteers.



**Ag Programming Keeps Producers Informed** Through ongoing educational programs in pesticide and manure certification, Cedar County producers continue to gain the latest information. Not only do they meet the requirements to apply chemicals and animal waste, but they also are exposed to the latest research from Iowa State University. More than 400 Cedar County producers were contacted through group and one-to-one efforts.

### County 4-H Endowment Fund established

Through the generosity of the Amos Mohr Family, the Iowa 4-H Foundation now offers a specific fund to receive gifts, bequests or other donations to specifically benefit the Cedar County 4-H Program. A kick-off dinner and meeting was held in the spring with a presentation by Joe Leisz, Executive Director of the Iowa 4-H Foundation.



**Summer Adventure explores Des Moines and ISU Campus** Over a two day period in June, 100 youth in fourth, fifth and sixth grades visited the Science Center and Iowa Hall of Pride in Des Moines, spent the evening and following morning at the Iowa 4-H Center near Madrid, and explored the ISU campus in Ames. For many this was their first experience away from home and a chance to make new friends. Youth and teen counselors from Cedar, Jones, Johnson and Muscatine Counties participated in this experience. Transportation was provided by a grant from the Iowa 4-H Foundation.

**Extension Council elections to be held** On November 7, voters will have a chance to cast their votes for Extension Council members. Running again for another four term includes Tim Dolan, Jean Driscoll and Devin Schroeder. Filling out the remaining two Council position on the ballot will be Alan Beyer of West Branch and Jennifer VanOort from Clarence. Not running for re-election includes Molly Pelzer and Mary Ann Mente.

October 2006

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... and justice for all

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