

2011 Points of Pride



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Alison Boelman
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Rich Wrage
Regional Extension Education Director
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Field Agronomist

Story County Extension Council

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.

We have identified these local issues as priority topics for current and future programming:

- Youth Development Programs
- Agriculture, including pest management and technology
- Healthier Lifestyles to reduce obesity and improve health

ISU Extension and Outreach in Story County

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Get inside Extension and discover how we support healthy people, environments, and economies. Read about some of the ways ISU Extension and Outreach meets local needs, improves quality of life, and helps make Story County a better place to live. You'll be amazed at what we do.

Cathy Miller
Extension Council Chair

Rich Wrage
Regional Extension Education Director

Healthy People

In December, Jody Gatewood, Food and Nutrition Program Specialist, taught a ServSafe class to 14 people (10 from Ames, three from Marshalltown, and one from Indianola). ServSafe is an intense food safety training course for restaurant and food service managers. Participants become ServSafe certified by successfully passing the National Restaurant Association's certification exam.

Jody also led a Preservation 101 session that included beginning canning tips for those new to canning, as well as the latest recommendations for the experienced canner. During the 2-hour session, pressure canner testing also was offered. Ten Story County residents attended this newly offered program.



Healthy Environments

The Crop Advantage Series meetings were held in Story County. These meetings provided information to help over 100 producers make profitable decisions for the upcoming growing season.

The meetings covered a variety of topics, including crops, pests, soil fertility, and farm management. This year's keynote address focused on understanding sudden death syndrome (SDS) in soybeans, a widespread problem for growers in 2010. ISU Extension and Outreach

crop plant pathologists discussed the latest research with producers.

In addition, attendees were able to select from a full agenda of topics to develop a personalized meeting agenda. Agenda topics that related to local needs and production issues were selected by the ISU Extension agronomists serving Story County.



Healthy Economies

The Story County Extension Office hosted 70 farmers, landowners and agribusiness professionals in July. The Crop Marketing Outlook and Strategies meeting featured John Roach, senior market analyst on IPTV's Market to Market and president of Roach Ag Marketing. The meeting was sponsored by Key Cooperative.

Story County Extension also offered its annual Farmland Leasing meeting in July. This meeting provided to 30 participants current land values and cash rental surveys, as well as information on the impacts of yields and prices.



Food Drive

Story County Extension celebrated ISU Extension Week March 21-25. As part of its celebration, the office held a food drive. Non-perishable donations were collected at libraries in Nevada, Colo, Zearing, Collins, and Roland, as well as at the 3C's in Huxley and the Story County Extension Office. Donations were brought to the Nevada Community Cupboard for distribution.

Building Dedication Honors 4-H Supporter

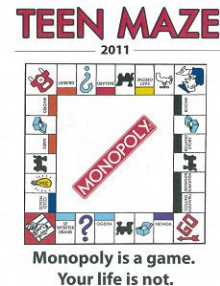
During the Story County Fair's 4-H Reunion, Jeff Longnecker, Story County Fair Board president, announced that the hall formerly known as 4-H Hall is now officially Christy 4-H Hall in honor of Jim Christy and the passion Jim had for the 4-H program. Alison Boelman, Story County Extension Administrator, presented a plaque given by the Extension staff that will hang in the hall. The plaque, with Jim's picture, describes the man held so dear by many people in Story County.

Teen Maze 2011

Story County Extension Youth 4-H Coordinator Mary Wilkins acted as a track leader during the first Teen Maze in April. This event, sponsored by Division 11 Kiwanis and YSS, had 36 partnering agencies bring real life scenarios to 800 seventh-graders from Story, Boone and Greene counties.

The Teen Maze provided youth with a hands-on taste of potential effects of life choices in a safe, non-judgmental environment. Fourteen maze stops covered topics in mental health, health and wellness, relationships and life skills. Topics such as tobacco use, abstinence, depression, employment, and

financial literacy provided the participants with an opportunity to interact with volunteers and role play real-life situations.



After the Nevada Middle School youth returned from the maze, youth coordinators rounded out their day with various food and nutrition sessions, including serving size, sugar in drinks, and exercise.

Story County Extension Council



Front Row (left to right): Alice Moody, MaryAnn Gardner, Jean Saveraid, Stacie Link; Back Row (left to right): Robert Krause, Erik Christian, Doug Sampson, Cathy Miller, Ryan McKinney

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