

**INSIDE GRUNDY COUNTY**  
**By Bill Arndorfer**  
**Grundy County Extension Education Director**  
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I have had the privilege to serve Grundy County as the county extension education director (ceed) for the past eight years. As you are aware, that will change on August 31 for me. Due to budget cuts, ISU Extension has eliminated the county education director positions and has moved to a regional model. Grundy County is in Region 9 along with Butler, Bremer, Buchanan, Tama and Black Hawk counties. Al Ricks, formerly the Black Hawk County CEED, will serve as regional director.

Despite these changes, the local Grundy County Extension office will remain in place to serve the citizens of Grundy County. Brenda Everts, office assistant, is here to take your calls and help answer questions or direct questions to the appropriate resources or ISU staff. The support for the 4-H and youth program remains a top priority for ISU Extension. Locally, you will continue to work with Andrea Traeger, County 4-H/ Youth Coordinator. Be sure to talk with Andrea about opportunities for your kids and grandkids in traditional 4-H clubs, specialty clubs and for volunteer opportunities for you. The extension council is considering options to continue to support local education and programming efforts.

On September 1, I will be starting a new position with ISU Extension. I will be a Crop Production Field Specialist. In this new role, I will be working on special projects. However, my office will no longer be in Grundy County. Exact details are still being worked out but I am excited about and look forward to my new role in Extension.

Since this is my last column, I would like to thank each of you who read this column or have participated in extension programs. It has been a great experience getting to know and work with you. My hope is that you have found this column and extension programs helpful to you and that it has provided information that has made your life a bit easier or at least has given you food for thought. I would also like to publicly thank my staff for all their hard work over the years, the extension council members who have provided the support necessary to provide programming for you, the many volunteers who help to make extension programs come to fruition and to the many organizations and citizens that I have had the opportunity to work with and learn from in my time with extension. Also, thank you to all who attended my farewell reception; the conversations and well wishes were greatly appreciated! I hope our paths cross in the future! Thank you for a great ride!