

INSIDE GRUNDY COUNTY
By Bill Arndorfer
Grundy County Extension Education Director
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Every year in extension, we complete a summary of our activities for the year that is intended to let you know what educational programs and activities were offered. I thought this might be a good time to share highlights with you. For the complete report you can contact the extension office or go on our website: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/grundy>.

Grundy County Extension helps schools enrich their curriculum with programs such as On My Own and Ok and with kits and curriculums. During the past year, 696 students were reached this way in the classroom. Examples of ISU Extension's curriculum base include horticulture and environmental programs, Robotix, biotechnology, global positioning and leadership skill building. Many of these programs are part of Extension-Science, Engineering and Technology (E-SET) which is a part of Iowa State University's Youth and 4-H programs.

Another important program that is offered each year is the Progressive Agriculture Farm Safety Day Camp which promoted the message "safety first" to 273 youth. Through hands on workshops and demonstrations provided by staff of ISU Extension, Grundy County businesses, organizations, 4-H and FFA members, youth learned valuable life long lessons on how to avoid dangerous situations on the farm and in the home.

During the summer, youth were able to attend summer day camps that helped build interest in science and promoted observing, comparing, communicating and application skills. Ninety seven youth attended the following day camps: Art Explosion (K-1 grades), Safety Day (K-1 grades), Fizz, Bubble, Goo (2-3 grades), and Fun at The Fair (2-3 grades).

There were 212 4-H members enrolled in nine community clubs in Grundy County during the 2005 - 2006 program year. Of those members, one hundred eighty 4-H members exhibited a total of 649 animals and 551 non livestock exhibits at the Grundy County Fair. Volunteers are very important to the success of 4-H and that is evidenced by the fact there were approximately 150 4-H volunteers who helped at the fair.

Master Gardeners and interns completed 817 hours of community service last year. Master Gardeners get involved with community projects where they share their new knowledge with others in the county. A master gardener horticulture helpline was also established this past year to help answer your yard and gardening questions.

ISU Grundy County Extension and partners work collaboratively to offer marketing programs to farmers and other interested people through the Tri County Ag Marketing Club. Also, (re)certification training was offered to private and commercial pesticide applicators and to commercial and confinement manure applicators. ISU Extension provided research based information to ag professionals and farmers through programs such as pro ag and ag chemical dealer meetings and crop advantage conference. The extension office also responded to numerous requests for research based information and publications.

For more detailed information, please call 319-824-6979 and ask for our stakeholder's report or better yet, plan to attend our open house on Monday, November 20 from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. in the Grundy County Extension Office and talk with our staff and field specialists to learn more about the educational programs available through extension.