



Regional News

ISU Extension and Outreach

for Cherokee, Buena Vista, Ida, Sac, and Calhoun

October 2020

Hortline Telephone and E-mail Changes

Horticulture answers and updates will still be available, but in a different format

September 30, 2020, 9:08 am | Zach Clemens

AMES, Iowa -- It is the end of an era for the popular Hortline telephone service at Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.



Richard Jauron, the most recognizable voice behind the Iowa State University consumer horticulture effort, is retiring after more than 36 years of dedicated service, effective Sept. 30, 2020.

“When someone does their job so well and for so long, the danger is that you begin to take their contributions for granted,” said Jeff Iles, professor and chairman of the department of horticulture at Iowa State University. “Richard has served Iowa State University Extension and Outreach and his home Department of Horticulture in an exemplary fashion.”

From answering over 165,000 calls on the popular Hortline telephone service, to his regular spot on Iowa Public Radio’s “Talk of Iowa: Horticulture Day” radio program, Jauron, with his calm and reassuring brand of horticulture advice, has helped countless Iowans live more productive, healthy and enjoyable lives.

Jauron, who served as a horticulture specialist with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, will be sorely missed, but many excellent educational resources are available to help fill the void.

Hortline Telephone and E-mail Changes Cont’d.

Those resources can be found on the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach [Horticulture and Home Pest News website](#). An extensive amount of horticulture information is available, all searchable by resource, topic or keyword.

They include:

- An [encyclopedia](#) of horticulture terms, plants and insects
- Thousands of [frequently asked questions](#)
- Almost three decade’s worth of the [Horticulture and Home Pest Newsletters](#)
- Links to hundreds of downloadable [publications](#)
- Dozens of [videos](#) on a wide range of topics

Face-to-Face ServSafe® in Buena Vista Co.

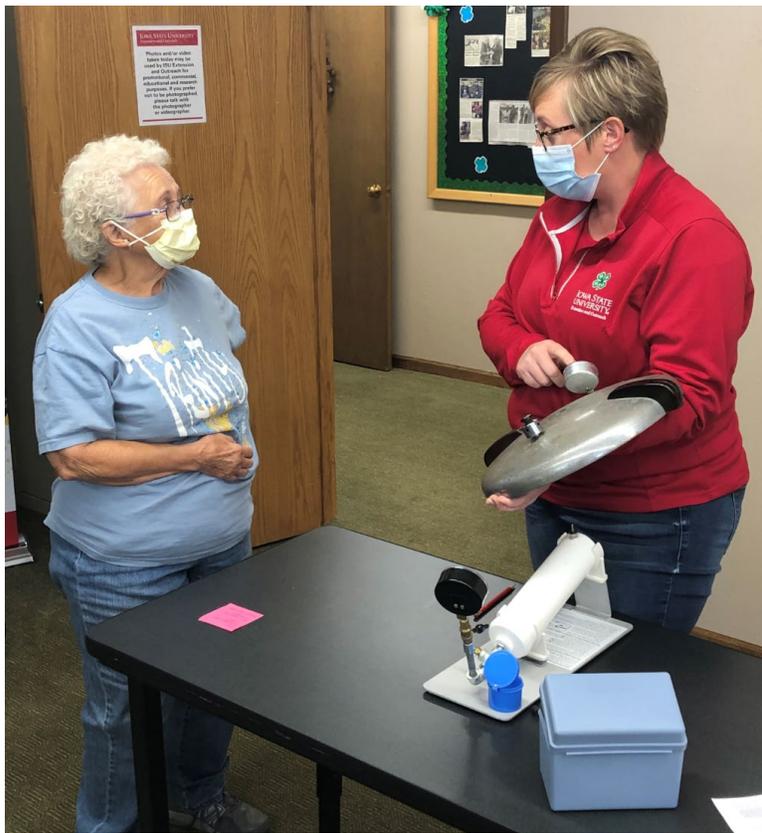


Mary Krisco, ISU Extension and Outreach Human Sciences, Family Nutrition and Health Specialist conducting training in Storm Lake in Spanish.

Important Upcoming Dates

- Office Professionals Conf. Zoom – **October 20th**
- Bookkeeper Training – **October 21st**
- Health Insurance and Benefit plans for staff – **October 22nd – 1:00 p.m.** (More information to come)
- NW Area Meeting – **November 30th – Aurelia**
- Region 1, 6 and 7 New and Current Council Training – **January 5th – 5:00 p.m.** – Plymouth Co. Ext. – LeMars

Canner Lid Testing in Sac Co.



Master Gardener Plot in Newell



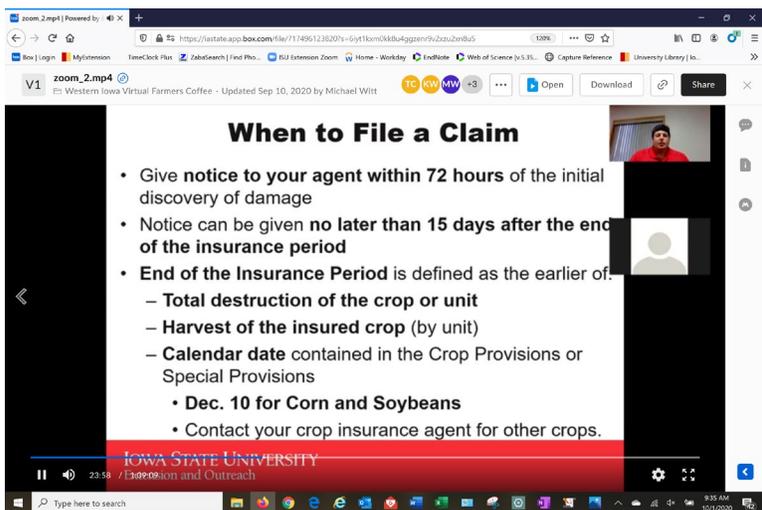
Family Finance Support During COVID-19



ISU Extension and Outreach Human Sciences, Family Finance Specialist, Carol Ehlers worked with various counties in NW Iowa to identify key financial actions in response to reduced income or job loss due to COVID-19. As a result, eight radio interviews were translated into Spanish and distributed to six radio stations. Topics included the most current information on the Economic Stimulus Payment, Iowa Utilities waiver, and the importance of financial consultations. Feedback from individuals included:

- ***“Thank you for our financial consultations. I was uncertain of what to do anymore. ...trying to sort through my medical debt I needed the tools to sort through our financial situation. Your resources were so helpful.”***
- ***“I am a Senior without the internet and the stimulus payment was so confusing. It was reassuring to be able to talk to someone that would help me sort this out.”***
- ***“I appreciate the help to find grant funds for our local veteran. And the personal financial resources you gave me were put in the food pantry items distributed to some 250 families.”***

55 Attend Virtual Farmers Coffee



Approximately 55 individuals attended a virtual coffee held by ISU Extension and Outreach Farm Management Specialist Tim Christensen and ISU Extension and Outreach Crop Specialist Mike Witt. Topics included drought and derecho impacts, crop insurance, grain quality and storage and harvest safety and stress.

Open for Iowa Resources

ISU Extension staff are encouraged to review the Open for Iowa website for information related to COVID-19 recommendations and procedures. This site is updated on a regular basis following CDC and public health guidelines. Click on the link and save it as a bookmark for future reference: <https://my.extension.iastate.edu/covid-19-resources>

Cherokee/Sac AgOvation Team Places 2nd



The Sac/Cherokee AgOvation team placed second this year in the State AgOvation competition! The team included Levi Steinkamp, Kaydon Erpelding and Zach Erpelding. They came up with revamping

the corn snout by adding a chain drive and little fingers to help grab the downed corn to help the farmer save time and money.

Calhoun Extension Council Prioritizing COVID-19 Action



Cherokee's New STEM Kits



Two-Way Score Card Message From Dr. Lawrence



County council members, county staff, regional directors, and program specialists:

On July 1 we completed our Structured for Success process and launched the transformation of our organization. Now it is time to look back on the past three months and review our progress.

I encourage you to complete the **Two-Way Scorecard Communication Tool** online survey, now available at https://iastate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1EQbat7vNkwBcMd. The survey covers the first quarter, July-September 2020, and will take about 10-20 minutes to complete. **Please answer the questions based on your own, individual experience and complete the survey by 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, October 15.**

Any council members who are unable to complete the survey electronically should contact their regional director to receive a hard copy to complete and return to Andrea Nelson at 2280 Beardshear, 515 Morrill Road, Ames, IA 50011. All mailed surveys must be received by October 15.

A Quarter 1 Report will be published in an aggregated format for each county. Counties will be able to review all scores and comments for further analysis through CyBox in a private folder for each county. A statewide report also will be published.

The Two-Way Scorecard Communication Tool was developed with county staff and council input and is fully supported by ISU Extension and Outreach and the Iowa Extension Council Association. We are committed to improving our communication and accountability by providing formal feedback on a quarterly basis. The scorecard is not a performance review of any individual; rather, it's a check-in on how we all are doing as partners. This is a continuing process that will strengthen our organization and our partnership so we can better serve Iowans and build a #STRONGIOWA. Thank you for your support.

Provided by Terry Janssen
Region 7 Extension Education Director

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach
Healthy People. Environments. Economies.

www.extension.iastate.edu

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. For the full non-discrimination statement or accommodation inquiries, go to www.extension.iastate.edu/diversity/ext.