You had a plan, but…Growing Your Nest Egg

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At any age you may be beginning a career, buying a home or a second home, getting married, welcoming children into the world, paying off student loans, preparing for retirement, or just trying to get to the next paycheck. The future you enjoy in later life is built on the decisions you make today. I can show you how to build less than $6 day into a million dollars at retirement!

I want to introduce you to the workshop, Growing Your Nest Egg, offered by Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, part of Retirement: Secure Your Future series. I’ll be talking about this at the Clay County Fair on Thursday, Sept. 17 from 2:30-3:30 p.m. in the 4-H Building auditorium. This is a FREE training that includes materials and training. We don’t sell or endorse any products. Join me.

Growing Your Nest Egg lets you managed decisions for circumstances such as handling accounts from one or more previous employers. What are the advantages of combining multiple accounts? How do you go about this? Should I roll this over to a ROTH IRA vs. a Traditional IRA and what will be the costs- if anything?

This course help you learn ways to maintain an account when starting a business or family farm, revamp a retirement plan when leaving paid employment and decide whether or not to use retirement account funds to pay current bills, and save money to invest for your future.
Even if times have been tough and you feel like you live from paycheck to paycheck due to family circumstances, there be something for you. Growing your nest egg exams strategies to improve management of current accounts and help determine how to achieve maximum growth. If you haven’t started a plan at all, the class will give you the tools to determine what is feasible with your current economic circumstances.

Here is a little teaser of what this course is about:

Growing your nest egg requires a commitment to set money aside for future use. Your retirement nest egg can consist of many different income-generating sources. Social Security or an employer provided pension often would form the basis. Employment also may give you access to 401(k), 403(b), profit sharing, stock options, and other employer sponsored retirement accounts. Individuals may add certificates of deposit, a private IRA, or Roth IRA to supplement retirement income. Business ownership, rental properties, homeownership, and collectibles are examples of “eggs” that may eventually create an income flow during retirement. How these various parts increase in value will depend on the annual amount you contribute during your working years, your investment choices, management decisions you and others make during your accumulation lifetime, and changes in economic conditions.

All sources of retirement income are important to your overall retirement security. When you invest, you are putting your dollars at risk or taking a chance. The outcome can be a loss or gain. Potential return on an investment can be current income (such as interest, dividends, or rent) and/or capital gains (in which an investment has increased or appreciated in value). The combination of income and capital gains is the total return from an investment.

Not all your investment choices have the same potential for return. Savings accounts involving almost no risk, typically earn less money than all other investment or saving choices. More risk is involved when you invest in stocks or bonds. This is known as the risk-return relationship. In general, if you want higher returns and potential for growth, you must accept greater risk.

For more information, contact Jan Monahan at 712-240-0254 or jmonahan@iastate.edu. Learn more about Retirement: Secure Your Future courses and find downloadable materials at www.extension.iastate.edu/humansciences/retirement.