Bullet Points from Rich

- 118 educational events were held in November and 59 events are scheduled for December. [www.extension.iastate.edu/calendar/default.asp](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/calendar/default.asp)
- The Structured for Success committee has its agenda, summary notes and a video on the County Services website.
- Learn more about Boone County’s Marketing Hometown America communities program.

4-H Awards

Over 100 Boone County 4-H’ers received awards Nov. 11 at the Boone County Fairgrounds. Eighty-four members received 190 bronze, silver and gold project awards. Fifty-one members received special or outstanding awards. Five alumni received scholarships. One club received a Citizenship Award. Three adult volunteers were recognized for outstanding service. The 2018-19 Boone County 4-H Council also completed its installation ceremony.

In Hardin County, 250 4-H’ers, Clover Kids and their families attended the annual 4-H Awards Night. The
event began with a potluck followed by awards and installation of the new 4-H council.

Water Rocks Program in Dike

Andrea Traeger, 4-H youth coordinator in Grundy County, interacted recently with fourth graders who were learning about watersheds. She helped with watershed bingo and hopscotch and found it was a neat way to teach about watersheds while interacting with youth and teachers.

December Council Training

All new and re-elected council members can attend training Dec. 8 at 9 a.m. at the Story County Extension Office or Dec. 10 at 6 p.m. at the Black Hawk County Extension Office. The training is an introduction to what council members may expect as representatives of a public board. It is also appropriate for current council members who need a refresher or who have not yet attended the training. More information is available on the County Services website.

Extension in Action

Boone, Hamilton and Story County youth staff presented the STEM-Lit to Go curriculum at the Boone and Story Reading Council’s November meeting. This group includes area educators who promote literacy through teacher programming and community outreach. The group was excited to learn about this resource and discussed ways they could implement it in their classrooms.

Pro-Ag Outlook was offered Nov. 14 in Black Hawk County with 65 attending. Dr. Wendong Zhang, Chad Hart and Melissa O’Rourke led sessions on China: Impact of Trade Disruption on Iowa and U.S. Ag, Commodity and Livestock Outlook and Leasing and Land Values.
A group of students in Ogden met during a no-school day to become 4-H innovators. They discussed four different real-world medical problems and then created possible solutions. Their challenges included designing a water filtration system, building a surgical instrument that could precisely grasp objects without disturbing surrounding organs, creating a pill coating that will dissolve slowly, and engineering a football helmet that can sustain maximum impact speed.

Four Clover Kids groups meet monthly after school throughout Boone County to explore different 4-H project areas. In October they explored food and nutrition by learning kitchen skills, including how to measure ingredients and use a knife; exploring the food groups and why each one is important; and creating healthy snacks. Seventy-nine youth and six volunteers participate in this program.

With 71 exhibitors, six specialty shows and nearly 2,500 guests, Black Hawk County helped pull off another successful Cedar Valley STEM fair with booths and active participation on the planning team. ISU-related booths were hosted by alumni, Master Gardeners, ISU Dick Young Greenhouse, ISU FoodCorps, two 4-H Lego League clubs and more.

Hardin County 4-H hosted a movie matinee at the Eldora movie theater Nov. 17 for 4-H’ers and their families. They enjoyed watching the movie The Greatest Showman. The movie was free to 4-H’ers and Clover Kids who enrolled by Nov. 16. First-year 4-H’ers and Clover Kids also received free popcorn.

Hardin County hosted the Iowa Agricultural Extension Association’s annual meeting Nov. 1. Thirty ag field specialists and administrators from around the state attended. They conducted their business meeting in the morning and toured the Ellsworth Community College Ag and Renewable Energy and Equestrian Center in the afternoon. They had the opportunity to drive a combine simulator, see a drone demonstration and ride an ATV equipped with GPS and an integrated spraying system.
Story County Welcomes New Program Coordinator

Erin Greazel is the new program coordinator in Story County. Originally from eastern Iowa, Erin grew up in 4-H and is familiar with ISU Extension and Outreach. As a 4-H’er, she showed livestock, did clothing and gardening projects and presentations, and much more. She graduated from Iowa State in 2006 with a bachelor’s degree in food science. Welcome Erin!