NW Awards and Professional Development – January 23rd, 2019

A NW area awards and professional development day is being planned for Wednesday, January 23rd at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake. All county and state ISU staff in Region’s 1, 2, 5, 6 & 7 are invited to attend. The purpose of the event is to recognize ISU Extension and Outreach staff accomplishments in Northwest Iowa, provide a professional development opportunity, and encourage greater participation in submission for awards given out at our state annual conference. Individuals and groups will be recognized in the following categories:

- County Extension Council Distinguished Service
- Creativity in Service to All Iowans
- Excellence in Partnership to Iowans
- Exceptional Volunteer Service
- Originality and Innovation in Programming
- Outstanding Achievement in Organizational Advancement
- Pride of Extension Award

The registration link is located here: http://bit.ly/mra11449

“WeWriting Your Retirement Paycheck” Feedback

Survey results from Writing Your Retirement Paycheck workshops held in Regions 6 and 12 showed 90% of respondents indicating they have the necessary knowledge and resources to effectively plan for their retirement, with 100% indicating high effectiveness of the workshop presentation in explaining material clearly. Participant comments included: “A great workshop.”, “Outstanding information and presentation.”, “It was well worth coming to the workshop and I learned so much.”, “Really loved the workshop. Learned strategies to make my money last.”

Annual Awards Deadline – January 4th

(Taken from Advancement Update).

Recognize those you work with in ISU Extension and Outreach for their outstanding contributions by nominating yourself. Categories include Outstanding Achievement in Advancement, Extension Council Distinguished Service, Impacting Iowans, Spirit of Cy and Pride Of Extension. Check the AwardsSite for the full list, eligibility criteria and nomination forms. All campus, field and county staff are eligible, as are volunteers and extension councils. The deadline for nominations is Jan. 4th at noon. The awards will be presented during Annual Conference on Feb. 28.

Council Training – December 8th

New and current council members have been able to attend council training throughout the state this past month. While the focus was on new council members, all council members were encouraged to attend. ISU Extension and Outreach council chairpeople, Kyle Rohlk (Ida Co.) and Laura Sievers (Buena Vista Co.) served on a panel discussing various aspects of serving on the council.
The Data for Decision Makers reports have been updated with the 2017 American Community Survey data. This information as well as other data on the ISU Extension and Outreach Indicators Portal provides community boards and councils, as well as non-profits valuable data for education, planning, grant writing and economic development. To access this and other information on the portal, click here: [http://indicators.extension.iastate.edu/](http://indicators.extension.iastate.edu/)

Dairy Directions Programs in Pocahontas & Sac

Over 25 individuals attended the Dairy Directions program in Pocahontas and Sac counties. ISU Dairy Specialist, Fred Hall led the program. Topics included benchmarks that help to identify profit-making decisions, milk contracts, staying legal with immigrant labor, accrual accounting, and a dairy market outlook. To evaluate the economic impact this program had for attendees, they were asked to estimate the benefit on an annual per cow basis; the range was from no benefit to over $100. Producer responses indicated that 64.3 percent estimated the value at $25 per cow ($1 to $50) and an additional 14.3 percent estimated the value at $62.50 per cow ($51 to $75).

Daycare Training in Sac Co.

Daycare providers learned about large motor skills in the “Move for Thought” segment, and about healthy eating habits in the “I Only Want a Peanut Butter Sandwich” section of the training. Continuing Education Units (CEU’s) were available.

Region 1 & 6 VIRT in Cherokee

Approximately 25 ISU Extension and Outreach staff attended the Virtual Incidence Response Training (VIRT) in Cherokee on December 20th. The goal of the training was to begin the mental preparation of recognizing, assessing, and responding to threats against you.

Cover Crop Field Day in Newell
Full House at Beef Quality Assurance Trainings

Beth Doran, ISU Extension and Outreach Beef Specialist has been busy this fall conducting Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) trainings in NW Iowa. The Iowa Beef Center is cooperating with the Iowa Beef Industry Council to host a series of Beef Quality Assurance training and certification sessions across Iowa before the end of 2018. BQA is a nationally coordinated, state implemented program that raises consumer confidence through offering proper management techniques and a commitment to quality within every segment of the beef industry.

Pro-Agriculture Outlook Meeting in Storm Lake

Congratulations to Steph Erpelding, Sac County Youth Coordinator for being selected to serve on the State 4-H Foundation Board. The Iowa 4-H Foundation provides financial resources for youth development through 4-H. They provide the financial resources to develop and deliver quality 4-H youth programs throughout the state of Iowa.

Multi-Factor Authentication Required for Staff

(From Deb Coates, Extension IT Manager)
Multi-factor authentication provides a second way to identify yourself when you log in. So, in addition to your password, you’ll also use either an app on your phone, a code sent via text message, a code sent via phone call, or a physical device called a Yubikey that you plug into your computer to generate a code. Currently, turning on multi-factor authentication is an option. Starting in spring (most likely in March, 2019) it will be required for all staff and faculty accounts. In order to make the transition as smooth as possible, we (EIT) will work with staff by campus department and by region to turn it on for Extension faculty and staff before the deadline. We’ll give you plenty of warning and be available to assist if there are issues. You can choose to turn multi-factor authentication on at any time. To do so, you'll want to follow the instructions here: https://www.extension.iastate.edu/it/multi-factor-authentication-and-okta. We recommend setting up more than one type of multi-factor authentication in case you get a new phone or lose your phone.

Paul Kassel Conducting Private Pesticide Training

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Many materials can be made available in alternative formats for ADA clients. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964.