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News Release

Contact: Teresa Wiemerslage, Communications Coordinator, 563-794-0599, wiemer@iastate.edu

Local 4-H Member Receive State Recognition
NORTHEAST IOWA – Local 4-H members were recently recognized at the state level for accomplishments related to project areas which included communications, horse, clothing and robotics.

Amy Doeppke of Clayton County received a state 4-H communication project award that includes a $100 savings bond from the Mary Jo and Glen Mente Endowment and the Iowa 4-H Foundation. Doeppke, 18, is the daughter of Brian and Julie Doeppke of Elkader.

During her five years in 4-H, Doeppke has received president and secretary club officer awards, worked an exhibit on extemporaneous speaking, performed educational presentations and placed a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

“I have learned many communication skills from this project,” she said. “I will use these skills for the rest of my life and I want to share these skills with other 4-H members.”

Maddi Friedrich of Howard County received a state 4-H horse project award that includes a $100 savings bond from the Mary Jo and Glen Mente Endowment and the Iowa 4-H Foundation. Friedrich, 19, is the daughter of Rod and Tori Friedrich of Alta Vista.

Throughout her nine years in 4-H, Friedrich has also received state awards in leadership and citizenship and led projects such as ARENA to improve the Cresco Saddle Club area, fundraising for Camp Sunny Side and Great Strides for therapeutic riding and “Renovating a Refuge” for her county fairground.
“Working with community members who are willing to be a part of youth and community development has been very rewarding,” she said. “I have learned to focus on positives and to value relationships. I have learned how I can make a difference in my world.”

Stephanie Tupper, Ionia, Chickasaw County, received a $500 scholarship for placing in the top 3 percent of the overall State Fair Awardrobe 4-H Clothing Event. The first-time award is sponsored by ISU’s Department of Apparel, Educational Studies and Hospitality Management in the College of Human Sciences.

Tupper is a nine-year 4-H member and another award recipient in the Fashion Revue category of the 4-H Clothing Event. Tupper constructed her own prom dress with bright colors and a unique design.

“I wanted a dress unlike anyone else’s for my senior prom,” she said. “For me, this dress is the perfect mix of funky and classic.” Tupper is attending Iowa State University and majoring in apparel merchandising, design and production, while participating in the Common Threads learning community.

A Robotics 4-H Team from Winneshiek County was a top scoring team at the Bratney 4-H Robotics Challenge earlier this summer. Each of the six participating youth teams received two challenges: building a robot using the LEGO Mindstorms® NXT platform and building a second robot using only the items in a “junk drawer.”

The “Master Builders” received the Junk Drawer Challenge Award. The team also received the Clover Award for their exemplary demonstration of 4-H values including teamwork, cooperation, generosity, responsibility, learning, working within space, time and materials constraints, and showing respect for others. Team members are Logan Brincks, Lucas Brincks and Devin Franzen.

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**News Release**

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**ISU Extension Offers Wreath Workshops**

NORTHEAST IOWA--A wreath on the door says “Season’s Greetings” to all who pass by. Make this message personal by making your own! Iowa State University Extension is sponsoring several wreath-making workshops in northeast Iowa this fall.

Participants will make a twelve inch evergreen wreath to take home. Basic materials will be provided, but bring pruners if you have them! Cost for this workshop will be $10.00 and pre-registration is required by calling the county ISU Extension office two days before the event unless otherwise noted. Pre-registrations may also be submitted online at [www.extension.iastate.edu](http://www.extension.iastate.edu). Click on the host county page.

Osborne Nature Center in Elkader will host the workshop on Nov. 13 at 3:30 pm. The Oelwein Public Library will host a workshop on Nov. 18 from 6:00-8:00 pm. Contact the Library at 319-283-1515 to register by Nov. 17.
Allamakee County Extension will host a workshop on Saturday, Nov. 20 at 1 pm. Jim & Julie Eckenrod of New Hampton will host the workshop at their home on Nov. 29 at 6:30 pm. The Ekenrod home is at 2211 S. Linn Ave.

Visit your county ISU Extension office webpage for more details, [www.extension.iastate.edu](http://www.extension.iastate.edu).

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**News Release**

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**ISU Extension Offers Workshop on Beef Grid Marketing**

NORTHEAST IOWA -- Today’s beef industry is moving toward value-based marketing of finished cattle. This consists of selling cattle on a price formula that determines value of each individual animal based on quality grade and yield grade.

Current grid pricing systems differ from past ones because there are significant premiums offered for cattle achieving quality grades above low choice and for yield grades 1 and 2. However, producers must withstand discounts for lower quality grades and poorer yield grades, plus any cattle that do not meet weight specifications.

Cattlemen interested in learning more about how beef carcass value is established should plan to attend a Beef Grid Marketing Workshop on Nov. 29 at the Edgewood Locker or Nov. 30 at the Spillville Locker. The workshop is also appropriate for 4-H or FFA market beef or dairy beef exhibitors and their parents.

Each program will begin at 7 pm and participants will have an opportunity to see and evaluate real beef carcasses. They will have the opportunity to measure the ribeye area and fat on beef carcasses, examine how and where cattle deposit fat, and learn about marbling and its effect on the taste of meat. Participants will also learn about the beef grids used for carcass contests at local county fairs.

ISU Extension livestock specialists Dan Lane and Denise Schwab will lead the program. Pre-registration is requested by calling the ISU Extension-Clayton County office at 563-245-1451 or register online at [www.extension.iastate.edu/clayton](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/clayton).

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**News Release**

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**Extension Workshop to Discuss Role of Farm Drainage Systems**

CALMAR – Subsurface drainage, commonly known as ag tile systems, is an important part of agricultural systems in Iowa. A drainage workshop planned for December will examine various aspects of farmland drainage, according to Iowa State University engineers who will conduct the workshop.
The 2010 Drainage Workshop will cover the basics of planning a new drainage system or retrofitting an existing system. Economic and long-term benefits of tiling of interest to producers, drainage contractors, landowners and others interested in farmland drainage will also be discussed.

The workshop will be held in northeast Iowa at the NE IA Dairy Foundation Center in Calmar on Dec. 10 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The workshop will also be held on Dec. 7 in Pella and Dec. 8 in Jefferson.

The pre-registration fee, including lunch and refreshments, is $35 for those registered by Dec. 1. Registrations after the pre-registration deadline will be $45. Walk-in registrations will be only accepted if space is available.

Registration information is available by calling your county ISU Extension office or ISU Extension—Story County at (515) 382-6551.

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**News Release**

**Annual Pro-Ag Outlook Scheduled for Nov.18**

MASON CITY -- The annual Pro-Ag Outlook meeting featuring the latest ISU research is scheduled for November 18 at locations in Waterloo and Mason City. Price risk management is the major variable for profitability in many commodity enterprises. Understanding the markets is a necessary part of farm management assistance for agricultural lenders as well.

Iowa State University specialists will present a variety of risk management topics. Erin Herbold will address some of the current legal issues facing producers including bankruptcy, production contract issues, recent wetland and real estate cases, and a brief tax update.

Dr. Chad Hart will discuss the market outlook for corn and soybeans. The U.S. has produced the three largest corn crops on record, yet prices remain above historical averages.

Shane Ellis will present the outlook for beef and pork. He will also discuss how the livestock industry may respond to current production costs and future demand. What will higher grain prices and a recovering global economy mean for the future of the meat industry?

A morning session will be held Nov. 18 at the Hawkeye Community College in Tama Hall, 1501 East Orange Road, Waterloo. Registration will be from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. and the program wills wrap-up by noon.

An afternoon session will be held Nov. 18 at the 4-H Learning Center at the North Iowa Fairgrounds, 3700 Fourth St. SW, Mason City. Registration will start at 12:30 pm and the program wills wrap-up by 4:00 p.m. The registration fee is $20 per person and is due by Nov. 12. Contact your county ISU Extension office for more details.

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**News Release**

Contact: Teresa Wiemerslage, Communications Coordinator, 563-794-0599, wiemer@iastate.edu
Iowa Organic Conference to Help Producers Meet Growing Demand for Organics

AMES -- The nation caught a glimpse of Iowa organic farming when President Barack Obama visited Morgan Hoeing and MogoOrganic last April as part of his Main Street Tour. Now, participants of the 10th Annual Iowa Organic Conference will learn even more about organic farming on Nov. 21-22 as Hoenig, other producers and experts from across the country speak at the Iowa State University conference at the Scheman Building on the ISU campus in Ames.

The world market for organic products reached $35 billion in 2009 and the demand for organic grains and produce continues to exceed supply. Growers everywhere are encouraged to consider the potential for organic production. Organic farmers, those transitioning to organic and those interested in learning more about organic production are encouraged to attend the Iowa Organic Conference. It is the largest University-sponsored organic conference in the country. Despite the challenges of flooding this year, we anticipate successful organic yields with organic soybean prices averaging $17 per bushel.

The conference agenda includes information on vegetable, fruit and livestock production and related topics – soil and water quality, crop insurance, diversifying marketing opportunities, government programs, the new pasture rule and transitioning issues. A pre-conference social on Sunday, Nov. 21, is planned for exhibitors and sponsors, but anyone can purchase a ticket to attend.

Conference registration can be made online. The cost of the conference is $105 on or before Nov. 1 and $125 after Nov. 1. Non-vendors must purchase a $15 ticket for the Sunday reception. Visit the conference website for additional conference information and directions to the conference, or contact Delate at kdelate@iastate.edu.

Conference partners include Iowa State University Extension, Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture, Midwest Organic and Sustainable Educational Services, Organic Valley and Practical Farmers of Iowa.

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Other Releases

Wait until Soil Temps Drop before Applying Anhydrous Ammonia

With the early harvest, Iowa’s conservation leaders are encouraging farmers to wait until soil temperatures lower before applying anhydrous ammonia (NH3) this fall.

This information has been sent to you by Teresa Wiemerslage, Regional Communications Coordinator for Region 4 ISU Extension, wiemer@iastate.edu, 563-794-0599.

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