

Meeting Local Needs 2012



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Story County Extension Council

Every Iowa County has an elected extension council that guides local educational programming by partnering with staff. From needs assessment through program implementation and evaluation of outcomes, the council represents the issues and people of the county.

We have identified these local issues as priority topics for current and future programming:

- Ag Education/Emerging Issues
- Strengthening Families
- 4-H and Youth Development
- Support Business and Industry

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ISU Extension and Outreach supports healthy people, environments, and economies by providing educational opportunities. We meet local needs, improve quality of life, and help make Story County a better place to live.

Cathy Miller
Extension Council Chair

Alison Boelman
Story County Administrator

Rich Wrage
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Healthy People Culinary Cookshop

Thirty 4-H members from Boone, Hardin, Marshall, and Story County participated in a Culinary Cookshop at MacKay Labs at Iowa State University. The 4-H'ers learned cutting skills, how to cook pasta, how to clean mushrooms and vegetables, how to jazz up pasta, how to sauté vegetables, and much more at the Culinary Cookshop. This Culinary Cookshop would not have been possible without the generous support from Barilla, the ISU Culinary Science Club, and an Excellence in Extension grant.

Pictured at right are Story County 4-H'ers Grace Long of Sheldahl and Kurt Sernett of Kelly, showing a product of their culinary experience.



Healthy Environments Homegrown Lifestyles

Story County offered a course for individuals who wanted to reconnect with the land, grow food for their own use, and create a sustainable landscape. The Homegrown Lifestyle class began in March and had 15 people participating.

Each weekly session had a webinar, taught by extension educators with expertise in the topics, plus locally organized activities for a hands-on experience. In addition to weekly Thursday sessions, two local tours were offered to experience small-

scale food production and resource conservation practices first hand.



"The speakers have been absolutely wonderful and are exactly why I signed up for the course!" said class participant Mark Eimers.

Topics covered during the course included edible landscape design; soil and water conservation; growing and preserving vegetables, fruits, and wild crops; backyard poultry; beekeeping; grazing and ruminants; and wildlife management.

Healthy Economies Money Talk



Eight Story County residents participated in a 5-week "Money Talk: A Financial Course for Women," in March.

Women face special challenges in building life-long financial security. This workshop series provided an opportunity to gain key information,

ask questions, and build confidence in making the best financial decisions for their needs.

Topics included Reaching Financial Goals, Financial Security (both short-term and long-term), Insurance Essentials, Creditworthiness, Investment Fundamentals, and Estate Planning and Legal Issues. Sessions were conducted by Barb Wollan, extension family finance specialist and by local professionals, using materials developed by extension specialists at the state and national level.

Extension's Impact Corn Stover utilized for ethanol



Ninety-three people attended an August meeting at the Story County Extension Office to learn about corn stover harvest. Staff talked about harvest and storage logistics for obtaining and maintaining stover quality, soil management, soil fertility, and agricultural economics. Kapil Arora, ag engineer; Mark Licht, field agronomist; and Kelvin Leibold, farm management specialist, facilitated a user panel discussing the experiences of producers – Kevin Gerlach, Adam Hill, Mike Greenfield, and Jeff Taylor – who have harvested corn stover. Dennis Penland, DuPont business development manager, shared details about DuPont's feedstock development and procurement plants. The economic impact for Story and surrounding counties is huge. As many as 160,000 acres of stover may be utilized when fully implemented.

4-H Fund-raiser a Success



Indian Creek Circles 4-H members, Kate Deakins and Creighton Caple deliver a cake to the winning bidders at Nancy and Bill Couser's table.

Barns, Buttons, 'N' Bows 2011 was a great evening for supporters of the Story County 4-H program. It was all about having fun and raising dollars for the benefit of 4-H youth. Nearly 160 individuals participated in a silent and live auction and competed in 4-H trivia. Tables of eight combined their resources and began the Dessert Auction bidding. This resulted in some desserts bringing over \$200. The event cleared \$10,500 which goes into the Story County 4-H Foundation. Those dollars support new clubs, educational experiences for youth, scholarships, club grants for community service projects, and membership fees.

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