

1998
56th ANNUAL REPORT
CASS COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ATLANTIC, IOWA

8661

1998 Annual Report

- 1 Office
2 James Gulliford (Department of Soil Conservation)
3 Area Office - Natural Resources Conservation Service
1 Senator Derryl McLaren; RR 1, Box 220; Farragut, IA 51639
1 Senator Charles Grassley, U.S. Senate, 135 Hart Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
1 Senator Tom Harkin, 705 Hart Senate Building, Washington, D.C. 20510
1 ~~Congressman Leonard Boswell~~ ^{Congressman Greg Gansky}, 1609 Longworth Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515
1 Regional Director; Bernie Bolton, 38995 Honeysuckle Rd., Oakland, IA
51560-9686
1 Davis Conservation Library; P. O. Box 776; League City, TX 77573
SCDs in Area IV

10-19-99
sent 1 picture to *Business American*
1 to *Atlantic News Telegraph*

News Release

For Immediate Release:

Laura Greiner at NRCS, 515-284-4262

or local District Conservationist at 712-243-3180

**Royal Bierbaum Recognized as "Century Conservation Farm Family"
at 1999 Farm Progress Show**

The Royal Bierbaum family was selected to represent Cass County as one of Iowa's conservation farm families of the century.

The Bierbaums are one of 78 farm families from across Iowa honored at the 1999 Farm Progress Show in the Amana on September 29. They were officially recognized in a brief ceremony at the show. They were nominated by the Cass Soil and Water Conservation District for their efforts to protect the water, air, and land that will produce our food into the next millennium.

Each conservation family received a limited edition wildlife print by well known Iowa artist Larry Anderson, and jackets and certificates signed by Governor Thomas J. Vilsack and other state conservation leaders.

This recognition of Iowa's Conservation farmers caps the year-long Conservation Milestones at the Millennium Campaign that honors the conservation work of Iowa's private landowners and the local, state, and federal conservation agencies and organizations which help them.

Cutline: Cass County farmers Mr and Mrs Royal Bierbaum received their Century Conservation Farm Family Award at the 1999 Farm Progress Show. Also pictured is NRCS State Conservationist Leroy Brown (center) and IDALS-Division of Soil Conservation official Ken Tow.

1998 Annual Report

- 1 Office
 - 2 James Gulliford (Department of Soil Conservation)
 - 3 Area Office - Natural Resources Conservation Service
 - 1 Senator Derryl McLaren; RR 1, Box 220; Farragut, IA 51639
 - 1 Senator Charles Grassley, U.S. Senate, 135 Hart Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
 - 1 Senator Tom Harkin, 705 Hart Senate Building, Washington, D.C. 20510
 - 1 ~~Congressman Leonard Boswell~~ *Congressman Greg Gansky*, 1609 Longworth Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515
 - 1 Regional Director; Bernie Bolton, 38995 Honeysuckle Rd., Oakland, IA
51560-9686
 - 1 Davis Conservation Library; P. O. Box 776; League City, TX 77573
- SCDs in Area IV

10-19-99

Sent 1 picture to Business
American

1 to Atlantic News
Telegraph

News Release

For Immediate Release:

Laura Greiner at NRCS, 515-284-4262

or local District Conservationist at 712-243-3180

**Royal Bierbaum Recognized as "Century Conservation Farm Family"
at 1999 Farm Progress Show**

The Royal Bierbaum family was selected to represent Cass County as one of Iowa's conservation farm families of the century.

The Bierbaums are one of 78 farm families from across Iowa honored at the 1999 Farm Progress Show in the Amana on September 29. They were officially recognized in a brief ceremony at the show. They were nominated by the Cass Soil and Water Conservation District for their efforts to protect the water, air, and land that will produce our food into the next millennium.

Each conservation family received a limited edition wildlife print by well known Iowa artist Larry Anderson, and jackets and certificates signed by Governor Thomas J. Vilsack and other state conservation leaders.

This recognition of Iowa's Conservation farmers caps the year-long Conservation Milestones at the Millennium Campaign that honors the conservation work of Iowa's private landowners and the local, state, and federal conservation agencies and organizations which help them.

Cutline: Cass County farmers Mr and Mrs Royal Bierbaum received their Century Conservation Farm Family Award at the 1999 Farm Progress Show. Also pictured is NRCS State Conservationist Leroy Brown (center) and IDALS-Division of Soil Conservation official Ken Tow.



To District Conservationists and SWCD Secretaries:

Enclosed you will find a black and white photo(s) and negative(s) of your Century Conservation Farm Family award winner and a fill-in-the blank news release. [FYI: If your photo has a glare from the flash, ask the newspaper to use the negative to dodge out the glare in a new print.]

If you would like to use these materials, please complete the news release (and the fill-in-the blank cutline) and send or deliver to your local newspaper. You can take another photo locally and write your own news release if you choose.

If we have inadvertently sent you the wrong photo(s) and negative(s), please return them with a note to our Information Section and we will get the correct photo(s) and negative(s) to you as soon as possible.

I hope your awardees enjoyed their day at the Farm Progress Show; they certainly should be proud of their nomination to a select group. Thank you for supporting this effort to honor a group of outstanding conservation farm families. It was a very appropriate way to end this year's Milestones campaign. Programs like this are impossible without your support.

Sincerely,

Leroy Brown

News Release

For Immediate Release:

Laura Greiner at NRCS, 515-284-4262

or local District Conservationist at [_____]

[Farmer's name] Recognized as "Century Conservation Farm Family" at 1999 Farm Progress Show

The [Farmer First Name, Last Name] family was selected to represent [county] as one of Iowa's conservation farm families of the century.

The [Farmer's name] are one of 78 farm families from across Iowa honored at the 1999 Farm Progress Show in the Amanas on Sept. 29. They were officially recognized in a brief ceremony at the show. They were nominated by the [_____] Soil and Water Conservation District for their efforts to protect the water, air, and land that will produce our food into the next millennium.

Each conservation family received a limited edition wildlife print by well known Iowa artist Larry Anderson, and jackets and certificates signed by Governor Thomas J. Vilsack and other state conservation leaders.

This recognition of Iowa's Conservation farmers caps the year-long Conservation Milestones at the Millennium Campaign that honors the conservation work of Iowa's private landowners and the local, state, and federal conservation agencies and organizations which help them.

-30-

Cutline: [_____] County farmers [_____] received their Century Conservation Farm Family Award at the 1999 Farm Progress Show. Also pictured is NRCS State Conservationist Leroy Brown (center) and IDALS-Division of Soil Conservation official Ken Tow.

Atlantic News-Telegraph

Bierbaums recognized at Farm Progress Show

The Royal Bierbaum family was selected to represent Cass County as one of Iowa's conservation farm families of the century.

The Bierbaums are one of 78 farm families from across Iowa honored at the 1999 Farm Progress Show in the Amanas on September 29. They were officially recognized in a brief ceremony at the show. They were nominated by the Cass Soil and Water Conservation District for their efforts to protect the water, air, and land that will produce our food into the next millennium.

Each conservation family received a limited edition wildlife print by well known Iowa artist Larry Anderson, and jackets and certificates signed by Governor Thomas J. Vilsack and other state conservation leaders.

This recognition of Iowa's Conservation farmers caps the year-long Conservation Milestones at the Millennium Campaign that honors the conservation work of Iowa's private landowners and the local, state, and federal conservation agencies and organizations which help them.



Cass County farmers, Mr. and Mrs. Royal Bierbaum, received their Century Conservation Farm Family Award at the 1999 Farm Progress Show. Also pictured is NRCS State Conservationist Leroy Brown (center) and IDALS-Division of Soil Conservation official Ken Tow.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

210 Walnut Street
Federal Building, Suite 693
Des Moines, IA
50309-2180

*Jim
Brown*

30 AUG 1999

August 27, 1999

Mr. Royal Bierbaum
Bierbaum Farms
68131 570th Street
Griswold, IA 51535

Dear Mr. Bierbaum:

Congratulations! You have been named one of Iowa's Century Conservation Farmers, representing Cass County.

This award recognizes you for taking special care of the water, the air and land that will produce our food for the next millennium. Your efforts to protect Iowa's natural resources ensures future generations can continue your tradition of conservation farming.

As a Century Conservation Farmer, your operation will receive a signed, limited-edition conservation print by Iowa-based wildlife artist Larry Anderson. This print, entitled *Fall Flight—Living on an Iowa Conservation Farm*, will be presented to you at the Farm Progress Show on September 29. You will also receive a special jacket and certificate. More details about the schedule and awards ceremony are included in the attached document.

I want to take this opportunity to personally thank you for all your hard work. Your efforts are greatly appreciated. I'm looking forward to congratulating you in person at the Show.

Sincerely,

Leroy Brown
Leroy Brown
State Conservationist

Attachment

Cc: SWCD Chairperson, Cass County, Atlantic, Iowa

To: Century Conservation Farmer Awardees

Tentative Schedule and Arrangements

On September 29, please arrive at the Conservation Central Tent (Lot 746 on 7th Street) anytime between 10 and 11 a.m. NRCS State Conservationist Leroy Brown and DSC Director Jim Gulliford, co-chairs of the Conservation Milestones committee, will be there to personally congratulate you as well as present you with your limited-edition print, certificate and "Conservation for 2000" jacket. (We will be providing a storage area for the prints, so you won't have to carry the print with you until you are ready to leave the show.)

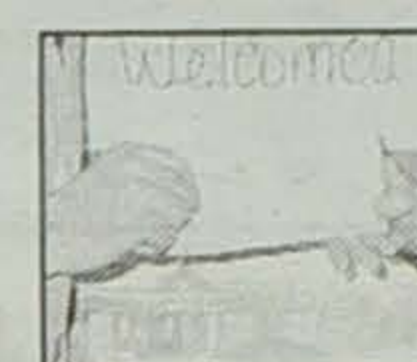
After this brief meeting, you will have free time until about 11:30 a.m. At that time, please go to the Presidential Candidates' Forum in the Family Living tent, south of Central Ave. on 6th Street. About 1,500 people are expected to attend the forum, which is currently scheduled to begin around noon. You are free to sit anywhere you like. Please wear your jacket--that will identify you as a Century Conservation farmer. There will be a brief, 10-minute Century Conservation farmer presentation as part of the forum. You'll be asked to stand as a group to be recognized by Wallace Farmer and the Conservation Milestones group.

Two free tickets, one for the winning farm family and one for the sponsoring commissioner, will be sent to the District office when we receive them (the Progress Show hasn't made the tickets yet). Finalized details will be sent along with tickets as soon as we have tickets to send to the office.

Questions, call Laura Greiner at 515-284-4262.

March
1999

Money continues to roll
in for new 4-H building



Page 6

Atlantic Farm Monthly

Soil Conservation

Serving Cass, Shelby, Guthrie, Audubon and Pottawattamie Counties for over 125 years.

Vol. 39-No.1

Visit Atlantic's Website at: www.atlanticiowa.com

Conservation is Everyone's Business



Left: Grace Jordan of Atlantic, was the third recipient of the Cass County Soil and Water Conservation District Scholarship, awarded last December. Grace is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Jordan and is a student at the University of Iowa at Iowa City.



Inside

Meet Your
Commissioners . . .3

The Annual Report
.....4

Education and the
Environment5

4-Hers of the Month
.....8

1998 Conservation Award Winners

Receiving awards at the District annual education banquet were Lee Poepppe of Anita the Kenneth Muller Conservation award and James Riggs of Lewis the Bill Fudge No-till award. Shown with their awards are JoAnn Poepppe, Jim Smith District Chairman and James Riggs.

Southwest Iowa's own version of the 'incredible edible egg'

BY JENNIFER
NICHOLS
N-T Staff Writer

Looking for some 'Egg-citement?' Area residents can enjoy an omelet and tour the Southwest Iowa Egg Cooperative Facility during their open house which will be held Friday, March 12 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.



The facility is located 4 1/2 miles south of Massena, and started when approximately 275 Iowa residents and entities, most in Cass and adjacent counties, purchased 1,000 ownership shares at \$2,700 each between January and February of 1998 to provide equity for a facility that would initially hold 650,000 hens.

The biggest number of shareholders come from Massena, and the second biggest number come from Atlantic.

Why eggs? According to Dan Brawe, a member of the steering committee that was trying to get interest in shares for the facility last year, the consumption of eggs is increasing.

"The increase in shell eggs," Brawe said during one informational meeting about the facility, "or what one buys in a carton, has been slow and gradual (to increase), but egg use in cake mixes, pasta, and other products has grown rapidly."

"Any facility of this kind coming into the area is going to have a positive affect on the communities it is closest to," Gary Maas, a representative of the facility, said speaking via telephone to radio

talk show host Ken Root during his radio show "Agri Talk" held during the Southwest Iowa Agriculture Expo in Atlantic last month. "It also benefits the county due to the amount of taxes (approximately \$30,000 annually) for the county."

NEW HOLLAND OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, March 18th
9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

10% PARTS DISCOUNT
All Week March 15-20



See all the
latest in farm
machinery from
the top
manufacturers
in the industry.



NEW HOLLAND

- ★ Refreshments on the house
- ★ Visit with company reps
- ★ Register for prizes
- ★ Check out our machinery specials

Lindeman Tractor, Inc.

<http://www.lindemantractor.com>
West Seventh Street
Atlantic, Iowa 50022
712-243-3735

when
do you need Revenue Assurance
from Farm Bureau?
*when the market goes
against the grain.*

Roger Black
Cass Co. Farm Bureau
712-243-2263 or
1-800-427-2262

Just say when... whenever you're ready.



FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES

Insurance • Investments

www.fbfs.com

Securities products and services offered through:
EquiTrust Marketing Services
5400 University Avenue, West Des Moines, IA 50266
1-800-247-4170 © FBL 1998

JJ CONSTRUCTION

17 years of experience. Call
for a free estimate today!

New construction of Harlan Builders Post Frame
Buildings and Repair of any Post Frame Building

Residential, Commercial & Agricultural

Call For Spring Discounts

JJ Construction
712-243-1716 • Atlantic, Iowa

Harlan Builders
800-955-6124 • Harlan, Iowa

Meet Your District Commissioners



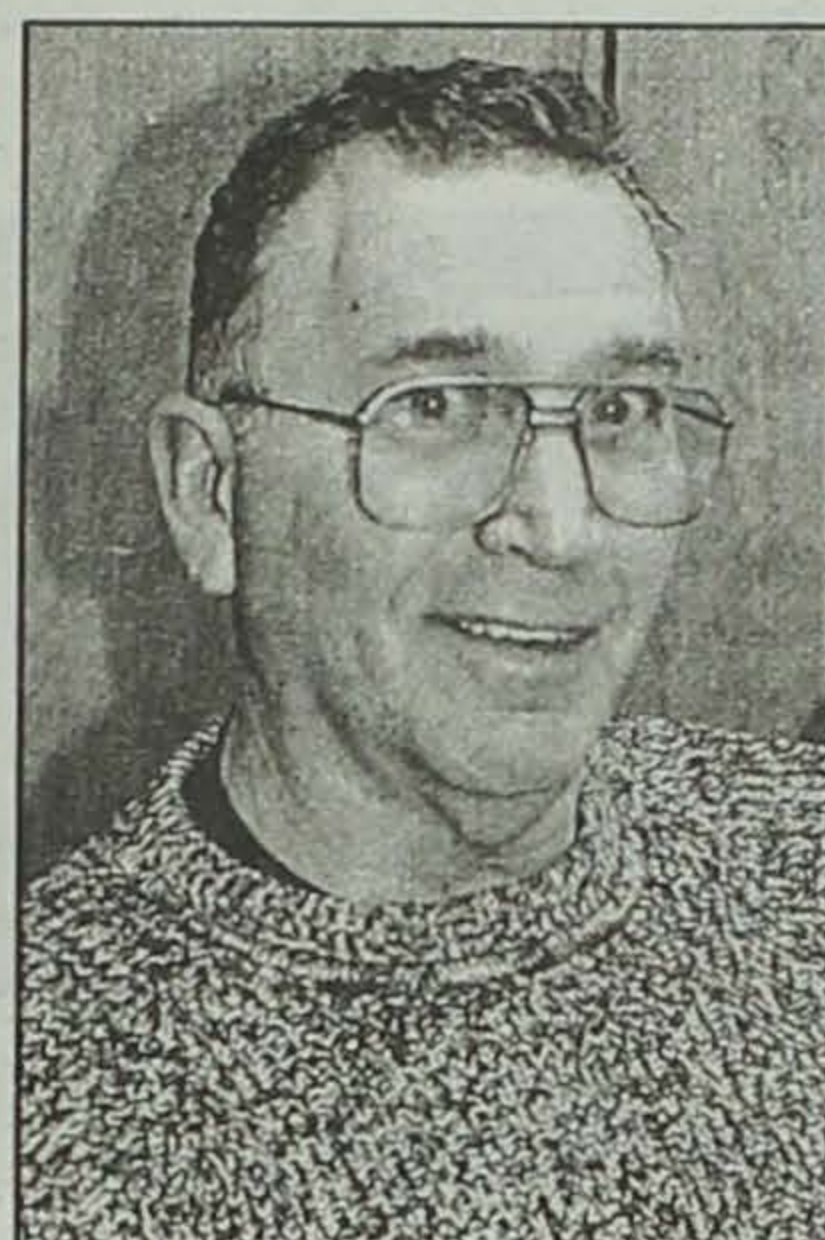
James K. Jordan

Commissioner for 10 years. Farmed since 1976; graduated Rolfe Community High School; Attended the University of Iowa and Iowa State University. Member of the Cass County and Iowa Pork Producers; his wife, Gini, is an Atlantic elementary school teacher.



Greg Zellmer

Elected to the board of commissioners in 1992; serves on the Cass Agriculture and Education Association, Danish Mutual board, Cass County Extension Council, Cass County and Iowa Beef Producers. Greg has three children; Jeremy, Carrie, Tara and wife, Donna.



Jim Smith

Commissioner since 1994. Has farmed south of Griswold since 1969. He and his wife, Joy, have three children: Brian, Diane, and Carol.



Julie Schmidt

Assistant commissioner since 1995; Chairperson, Cass County Board of Supervisors; secretary for "Iowa Watershed," the state watershed coalition. She and her husband, Chris, and their four children moved to Colorado in the fall of 1998.

Rose Holste

Assistant commissioner since 1994; farms south of Massena on century farm. She and her husband, Louis have four children.

Extension Service

Alan Teel	County Extension Education Director
Jill Euker	Field Specialist/Families
Julie Hering	Youth Program Coordinator
Bev Gunderson	Office Assistant
Kay Winston	Office Assistant (P/T)

Farm Service Agency

Bill Bartenhagen	County Executive Director
------------------	---------------------------

Office Staff

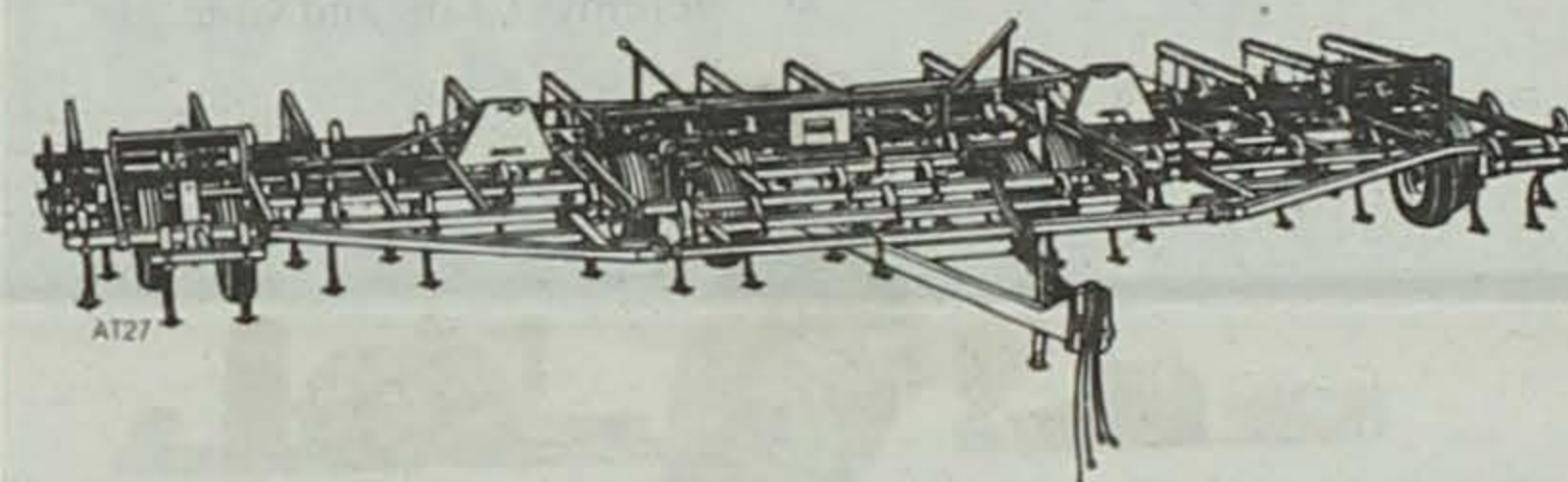
Diane Carspecken, Jamie Newbury, Jeanine Christensen, Sharon Crane, Mona Ballinger

FSA County Committee

Lawrence Wohlenhaus, Donna Lowers, and Bill Behnken

AG Credit

Don Obrecht	Acting Farm Loan Manager
Madonna Nisson	Program Technician



JOHN DEERE

Incorporation: Dirt-Cheap Weed Control

• Incorporate pre-plants with a John Deere field cultivator and save on the cost of expensive post-emerge herbicides!

SEE OUR SELECTION

• Maintain even depth for more-uniform incorporation.
• Work 10-feet 1-inch to 60-feet 6-inches wide.



PUCK IMPLEMENT COMPANY

AUDUBON 712-563-4266 OR 800-432-1610
MANNING 712-653-2574 OR 800-458-4431



GOOD DEALS...AND A GOOD DEAL MORE

ANGUS BULLS



Calving Ease
Hi Growth
Eye Appeal
Good Carcass Traits
FREE DELIVERY
Alter Feed Test

(EVAN) RAYL FARMS, INC.
Bridgewater • 515-369-4092

FARMS FOR SALE

80 ACRES, M/L: Located approximately 11 miles S.E. of Atlantic or 5-1/2 miles S.W. of Cumberland. Currently about 74% tillable, more could be added. Very high quality, near level silt loam soils, small, older dwelling. \$1450 per acre, cash.

RURAL ACREAGE: Located 9-1/2 miles S.E. of Atlantic, just off the pavement. Nice 1-1/2 story home on one acre. Atlantic school district. More adjacent land could be purchased. \$45,000, cash.

114 ACRES, M/L: Located 11 miles N.E. of Atlantic, 78.7 acres cropland, balance permanent pasture with two ponds. No buildings. \$1185 per acre, cash.

30.5 ACRES, M/L: Located 2-1/2 miles west of Adair, 97% tillable cropland. No buildings, \$1250 per acre.

160 ACRES, M/L: Located 2 miles N.E. of Grant, 98.0 acres good quality cropland, 19.4 acres CRP, balance timber. 10,000 bushel grain bin. \$1275 per acre, cash.

309 ACRES, M/L: Located 3 miles southeast of Guthrie Center, Cropland, pasture and timber combination. Good amount of Non-HEL bottomland. \$825 per acre, cash.

80 ACRES, M/L: All permanent pasture and 10 miles southeast of Atlantic. Good carrying capacity. \$788 per acre, cash.

120 ACRES, M/L: Located 5-1/2 miles S.E. of Massena. 82% tillable with mostly bottom soils. No buildings. \$1000 per acre, cash.

480 ACRES, M/L: Located 5-1/2 miles S.E. of Villisca. 313 acres mostly bottom cropland, well tiled. Balance open pasture. All contiguous. Pasture could be split off. \$1200 per acre, cash.

SOLD

**Smith
Land
Service Co.**

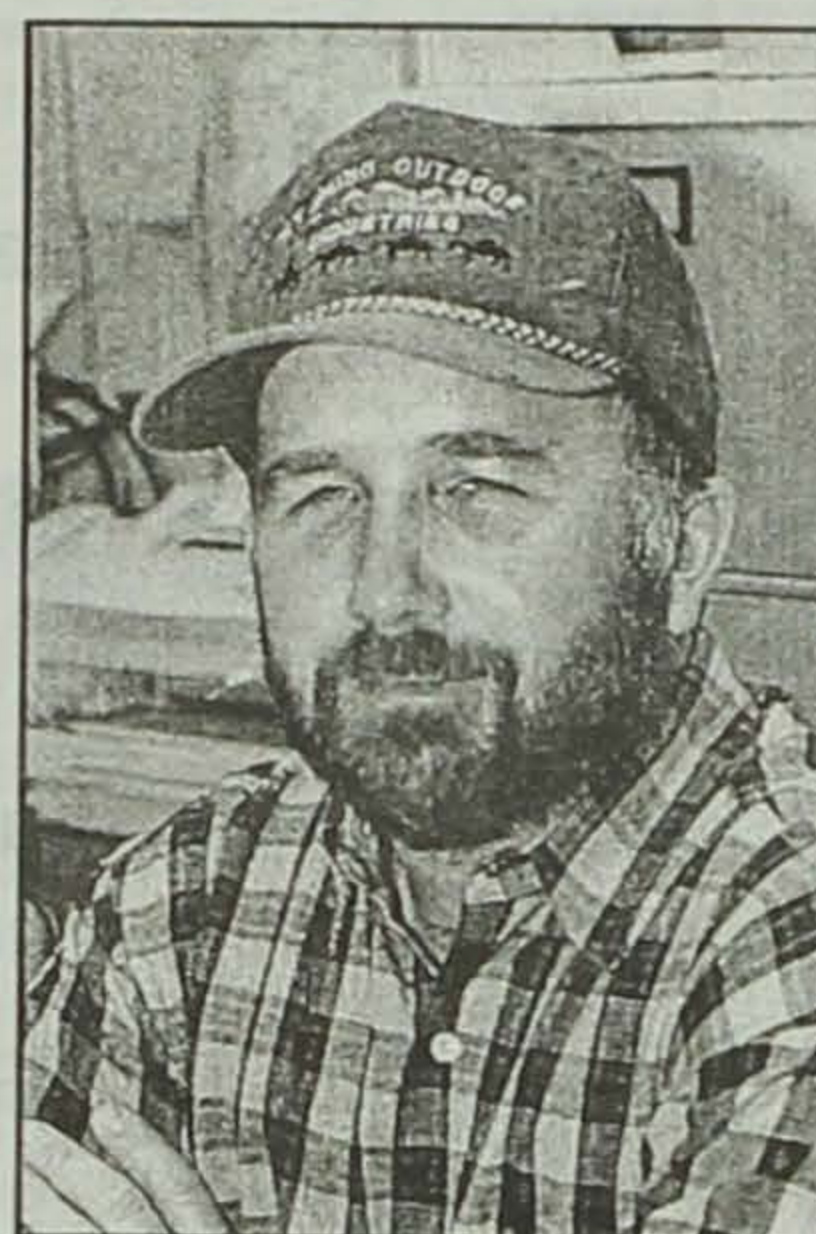
Farmland Sales • Management • Appraisal
1906 E. 7th St., Atlantic, IA 50022 • Office (712) 243-4444

Meet your District Commissioners



Fred Kay

Elected to the board of commissioners in 1992. Serves on the Rural Development Action Committee, Iowa Poultry Association, Cass County Pork and Beef Producers, and Cass County and Iowa corn growers associations. He and his wife, Jane, have two children, Scott and Amy, and three grandchildren.



Mike Hall

Commissioner since 1994; began farming north of Massena since 1975. He and his wife, Jeanette, have three children: Jeremy, Leah, and Cale.



Russell Joyce

Has served two years as assistant commissioner. Currently serves as vice chairman of the Cass County Board of Supervisors. Also serves on board of directors for CADCO, RDAC, Hungry Canyon, and on the county environmental board. He farms northeast of Atlantic



Backyard conservation is family fun

It's great to be able to care for a piece of land! Whether your backyard is a small square of grass or an estate of thousands of acres, you can make the land better. As you do, you can enrich yourself and your family, too!

All land has resources of soil, water, air, plants and wildlife. Conservation means using these resources wisely, while protecting or improving their quality. Many conservation methods are the same for farms, parks and yards.

Think of your yard as part of the bigger landscape around you. If each person or family does only a small part to conserve resources on the land they tend, the results add up to a better world!

Conservation projects do more than just improve your backyard. As you plan backyard projects, do them, and enjoy the results, you'll share valuable time with family. Sharing time and experiences is one of the best ways to strengthen family relationships.

Soil Conservation District Personnel

Carolyn Wilson
Gary Wolfe

State Secretary
State Conservation Technician III

USDA -Natural Resources Conservation Service

Martin E. Seidel
Sindra Jensen
Duane Ortgies
Alyce Lane

District Conservationist
Soil Conservationist
Soil Conservation Technician
District Office Assistant

1998 Annual Report

Conservation Accomplishments

New Cooperators	8 No.
Farmstead Windbreaks	8 No.
Ponds	3
Wildlife Upland Habitat Management	8,500 Ac.
Terraces	135,625 Ft.
Underground Outlet	73,605 Ft.

Expenditure of Funds

I-M BUDGET

97-98 Allocations	\$2,935.00
Commissioner mileage and expenses	\$1,624.70
Office supplies and expenses	\$754.20
State and national dues	\$500.00
Returned to Div. of Soil Conservation	\$56.10
Total	\$2,935.00

III-M BUDGET

96-97 Allocation	\$119,985.98
Cost-share warrants paid	\$119,977.88
Returned to Div. of Soil Conservation	\$8.10
Total	\$119,985.98

97-98 Allocation	\$83,694.00
Cost-share warrants paid	\$83,458.76
Returned to Div. of Soil Conservation	\$235.24
Total	\$83,694.00

98-99 Allocation	\$84,183.00
Cost-share warrants paid	\$22,042.67
Obligated funds	\$22,500.00
Unobligated funds	\$39,640.33
Total	\$84,183.00

1998 REAP Practices	
Allocation	\$8,015.00
Cost Share warrants paid	\$8,014.17
Returned to Div. of Soil Conservation	.83
Total	\$8,015.00

1998 REAP Forestry/Native Grass	
Allocation	\$1,808.50
Cost-share warrants paid	\$1,584.08
Returned to Div. of Soil Conservation	\$224.42
Total	\$1,808.50



TRACTORS

Ford 7740 MFD, w/LDR
Ford 8630, 2800 hrs.
Ford 8670 MFD, 700 hrs.
Ford 8670 2 wh, 1800 hrs.
Ford 8770 2 wh, 2400 hrs.
Ford 8770 MFD, 1100 hrs.
Ford 8870 MFD, 2800 hrs.
Ford TW25, MFD, 4500 hrs.
Ford TW35, MFD, 3700 hrs.

Ford TW30, 4000 hrs.
JD 6400 MFD, w/LDR
JD 4450 PS, 5000 hrs.
JD 4440, 4900 hrs.
JD 8430 4x4, 6000 hrs.
Case 8930 MFD, 1100 hrs.
Case 7230 MFD, 700 hrs.

USED EQUIPMENT

Kinze 2600-16-30-31
Kinze 2600-12-30-23
Kinze 2500 8-30-15
Kinze 2300-12-30
Kinze 2200-12-30
Kinze 2000 6-30-11
Kinze 2000 4-38-7
JD 1760-8W w/liq. fert.
JD 7000 12-30 Flex Fold
JD 7200 12-30 Flex Fold
JD 7200 12-30 w/liq. fert.
JD 7200 16-30
Black Mach. 12-30-15

Case 800-12-30
White 6100-6-30-11
Great Plains 30 ft. drill
Krause 15 ft. no till drill
Kinze 640 & 840
Kinze 600 & 800
NH 256 Rake
Kilbros 1600 grain cart
JD 712 Disk chisel
DMI 5 sh. Subtiller

Sorensen Equipment

Harlan, IA • (712) 755-2455

After Hours: Call Roger (712) 755-3582

**BACKYARD SEE
PAGE 5**

**Make the News Telegraph
your news choice!**

Environmental education activities in Cass County

BY MELANIE PERRY

Conservationist, Cass County Conservation Board

What is environmental education and just what does it have to do with the soil commissioners annual report? First of all, environmental education is simply the teaching of the natural world around us. The Cass County Soil Conservation District is the first entity in Cass County to introduce this concept to the citizens of Cass County.

The Cass County Soil Commissioners created the Cass County Environmental Education Committee more than 20 years ago. It was their intent to bring soil conservation and other environmental problems into the public eye by bringing together a diverse group of people. Members included teachers, interested citizens, Stabilization Conservation Service office personnel and soil commissioners. The members have changed over time, but the intent of the group remains the same.

The Cass County Environmental Education Committee sponsors the 5th grade Conservation Poster Contest and the 6th grade Conservation Projects. Hundred of students have participated in these contests throughout the years and in doing so have learned about the world around them. Winners from these contests are then invited to attend a banquet sponsored by the Education Committee and the Soil Conservation District. The Education Committee also sponsors a tree for the Festival of Trees and co-sponsors the popular Halloween Hike.

The Cass County Soil Conservation District didn't stop there. They created a field day for 6th grade students to learn about the soil conservation first hand. The field day began as a bus tour of the county, but evolved last year into a hands on tour of a local farm.

The Soil Conservation District also encourages area farmers to practice sound soil conservation techniques.

Yes, it is their job to do this, but it is not necessary to give them awards for doing so.

They present two awards each year to Cass County farmers. The first is the Conservation Farmer of Year Award. This award is given in memory of long time member of the Environmental Education Committee, Kenneth Muller. The second award is the No-till Award, which is given in memory of Bill Fudge.

The Soil Conservation District goes one step farther to encourage education in Cass County. For the last two years, they have given a \$300 scholarship to a deserving student who chooses to further their education in college.

Environmental education is alive and well in Cass County due in large part to the Cass County Soil Conservation District.

Next time you see a commissioner or an employee, give them a big pat on the back and a big thank you!

The benefits of conservation tillage

Conservation tillage systems offer numerous benefits that intensive or conventional tillage simply can't match:

- **Reduced labor requirements** As little as one trip for planting compared to two or more tillage operations plus planting for conventional tillage.
- **Time savings** On a 500 acre farm, the time savings can be as great as 225 hours or almost four 60-hour work weeks.
- **Reduced machinery wear** Fewer trips save an estimated \$5 per acre on machinery wear and maintenance costs- a \$2,500 savings on a 500-acre farm.
- **Fuel savings** Save an average 3.5 gallons an acre or 1,750 gallons on a 500 acre farm.
- **Improved long-term productivity** Carbon in the soil accounts for about half of the organic matter. The latest research shows the less you till, the more carbon you keep in the soil to build organic matter and promote future productivity.

- **Improved water quality** Crop residues help hold soil particles and associated nutrients and pesticides on the field- cutting herbicide runoff rates in half. Additionally, the microbes that live in carbon-rich soils quickly degrade pesticides, better protecting groundwater quality.
- **Reduced soil erosion** Crop residues on the soil surface reduce erosion by water and wind. Depending on the amount of residues present, soil erosion can be reduced by up to 90 percent compared to an unprotected, intensively tilled field.
- **Higher soil moisture** Crop residues reduce water evaporation from the top few inches of the soil. No-till can make as much as two additional inches of water available for growing plants in late summer.
- **Improved water infiltration** Crop residues act as tiny dams to slow water runoff from the field, allowing the water more time to soak into the soil. Infiltration is also increased by channels (macropores) created by earth-

worms and old plant roots that are left intact. All help significantly reduce or eliminate field runoff.

- **Decreased soil compaction** Reduced weight and horsepower requirements with no-till can help minimize compaction. Additional field traffic required by intensive tillage breaks down the soil structure, promoting compaction.
- **Improved soil tilth** No-till increases soil particle aggregation (small soil clumps) which makes it easier for water to move through the soil and allows plants to use less energy to establish roots.
- **More wildlife** Crop residues provide shelter and food for wildlife, such as game birds and small animals.
- **Reduced release of carbon gases** Less tillage keeps naturally occurring carbon in the soil for use as organic matter. Intensive tillage releases soil carbon into the atmosphere as carbon dioxide where it can combine with other gases to contribute to global warming.

- **Reduced air pollution** Crop residues reduce wind erosion and the amount of dust in the air.
- **Lower horsepower requirements and fewer trips also reduce fossil fuel emissions.**

Watershed Projects

This year the NRCS is planning to build three structures in the Troublesome Creek Watershed. The purpose of these structures is primarily for erosion control, such as controlling an erosive creek or gully, but many other benefits are also accomplished.

One of the benefits of a watershed structure is to temporarily hold runoff water from a storm, and then deliver the runoff through a smaller pipe. This holds the water back that is headed for a major stream, (in this case - Troublesome Creek), until the main creek can handle it.

Another one of the benefits will be for wildlife. A lot of wildfowl have decided to take up permanent residence on some of the watershed structures, returning year after year to nest.

Two of the sites to be built this year will be in Cass County. One site is on the Duane Nelson farm. The other site is on Dean Esbeck's farm. The size of the structure on Duane's farm is 5.5 acres, and the pond size will be 8.6 acres on Dean's farm. There will be one structure built in Audubon County as part of this contract. The project will be let sometime in early spring and work will begin in the summer or fall, depending on the work schedule of the contractor.

By: Duane Orgies
Soil Conservation Technician

Backyard Continued from page three

Fresh air, sunshine and exercise are also benefits of backyard projects. And watching wildlife that is attracted to your yard is free entertainment all year!

Backyard conservation projects can help teach young people important lessons about responsibility. They'll learn how we can all conserve resources. They'll grow to appreciate other living things. They'll see how planning and practice lead to results. They will grow confident that their own actions can help build a better future.

Backyard conservation offers great fun and rewards. They can be yours anytime you want to start. Perhaps the best way to begin is to take a good look at your backyard now. Have a picnic and survey the scene. Identify the resources in your yard, including soil, water, air, plants and wildlife. Think about how you can improve them. Be realistic and start small, so you don't get discouraged.

One idea is to GO NATIVE! Plants that have

grown in an area for a long time, even before people settled there, are called "native." "Introduced" plants are brought into yards from other areas of the world. Native plants are well-suited for their area. They usually need less water in summer than introduced plants. Native plants often provide food and shelter for wildlife.

Many introduced plants have little food to offer wild animals. Some can also become pests because they compete with native plants and reduce wildlife food and shelter. Because of their low maintenance and high conservation value, consider native plants for landscaping. Their value and beauty are making them popular, and many nurseries offer a wide variety. You can also visit a library, garden club, or nature center to learn about native plants in your area.

When you conserve resources in your yard, you make a real difference in the world!

Agricultural Engine Service

- Block work
- Cylinder head work
- Rod & crank work
- Crack repair
- Sonic Testing
- New
- Remanufactured
- High Performance
- Industrial
- Engines of all sizes



Nishna Valley Machine & Motor Sports

Formerly: J & S Automotive Machine
203 Maple Street • Atlantic, Iowa • 243-6511
Hours: Monday-Saturday 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

Measure would force animal prices disclosure

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Meatpackers would have to disclose contract prices they pay for animals, under a measure approved by the Senate Agriculture Committee.

The panel cleared the way for debate in the full Senate on an issue that's gotten wrapped up in the fight over factory-style hog production facilities.

While many complain about unpleasant odors and the threats to groundwater supplies, many farmers argue that one of the biggest dangers the facilities pose is economic.

Some critics say that meatpackers make deals with larger producers, giving them more favorable pricing as they guarantee deliveries of large numbers of animals.

Smaller, family farmers get much less favorable treatment, critics charge.

Three speakers for organic meetings on March 16

With the increased interest in organic crop and livestock production, the ISU Extension Services in Southwest Iowa are sponsoring two meetings on Tuesday, March 16. One meeting will be at 1 p.m. at the Villisca Community Building and the program will be repeated at 7 p.m. at the Southwest Iowa Learning Center at the Armstrong Research Farm near Lewis.

Iowa State University Extension speakers will be Kathleen Delate, Organic Food Production Specialist; Carroll Olsen, Crops Specialist; and a Farm Management Specialist. During the program, the speakers will discuss: requirements for organic certification; methods of certification, weed, insect and disease control in growing organic crops and vegetables; and economics of organic crop production. There will be an opportunity for the audience to ask questions about organic crop and livestock production according to Alan Teel, Cass County Extension Education Director.

All persons interested in knowing more about organic crop and livestock production are welcome to attend the meeting, according to Teel.

Contributions continue to roll in



Cass County Farm Bureau President Dave Denne presented Wray McDermott, treasurer of the 4-H Grounds Committee, with a check for \$1000 for the 4-H Building Project. Farm Bureau will also donate another \$1000 to the project in the year 2000.



KENT HIGH PROTEIN 27

A meat-based food for high-strung breeds and growing puppies. Fortified with vitamins and minerals to keep dogs healthy and vigorous.

Guaranteed nutritionally complete!

MONTH OF MARCH

50¢ OFF on 50# of Any Dog Food or 40# Cat Food

Must Bring Ad In Farm Monthly & Atlantic News Telegraph.

Available at —



Oathoudt Farm Supply

W. on Hwy. 83 • Atlantic, IA • 243-6765

More than a feed company. "Working with and for our valued customers"

Oat production tips

BY MICHAEL L. WHITE
Field Crops Specialist

According to the Iowa Ag Statistics, 210,000 acres of oats were grown in 1998. This is less than 1 percent of Iowa's crop acres. High yielding 80-100 bu/ac oats along with the straw they

produce can still be a profitable crop. There are several key production practices that are critical for high yield oat production. Early planting, variety selection, and fertility management are key components.

Planting oats during the last

week of March should be your goal. Yields trend slightly downward for oats planted after April 1 with a steeper decline of one bushel per day after April 15th. Early planting reduces the potential of barley yellow dwarf (BYD) and crown rust disease infecting oats. Early planting also reduces the affect of hot dry conditions in June. High quality seed should be planted 1-2 inches deep, at 20 to 30 seeds per square foot (approx. 2-3 bu/ac). A pound of oats will contain 10-15,000 seeds. The lower seeding rate should be used if oats are being used as a nurse crop to alfalfa or other forage.

Several new disease tolerant and higher yielding oat varieties have been developed. Lower yields due to BYD and crown rust disease are common in Iowa. A copy of the 1995-1998 ISU Oat & Barley yield test (Pm-1645-50



Our FarMate Policy not only provides excellent protection for your farm, it can also save you money!

Stop by our office today for a competitive quote on your farm insurance.

Cass Mutual Ins. Assn.
600 Walnut St. • Atlantic, Iowa

FARMUTUAL
Insurance for Town and Farm
A POLICY OF WORKING TOGETHER.

OATS SEE PAGE 7

Waysides
by Grace Rasmussen

Escaping the cold

Just like many many 'snowbirds' (now referred to as 'q-tips' because of their white heads and white tennies) we took a winter wayside and thronged to the never-never land of Florida's entertainment and educational parks: only to come to the realizations that the U.S., well especially Disney, has adopted much of Denmark's Tivoli Gardens in Copenhagen in a much grandiose manner. Tivoli was a fore runner in displaying buildings and atmosphere of foreign countries and catering to the children with varied forms of entertainment.

Whoever proclaimed that vaudeville was dead, has been deprived of a visit to the wonderland of our entertainment parks. The atmosphere of Iowa's county and state fairs engulfs one and of course. Adventureland and Lake Okoboji's Arnold's Park offer some of the color and excitement that the old vaudeville acts brought in theaters.

Leo and I were dragging our feet and looking for a wayside to rest our twenty tired toes and four heels. We found a stage where a dragon was entertaining preschoolers. We sat down in the back and enjoyed a pageant as delight spread from the actors to the children and then to their doting parents and grandparents.

Somehow, I kept looking for Danny Kaye as Hans Christian Anderson to appear entertaining the children from around the world and wondered what Shakespeare would think of our incredible wayside. Wasn't it he who left the words... "All the world is a stage?" I know he did write, "All's Well That Ends Well."

Oats Continued from page six

cents) is an excellent resource to select a high yielding and disease tolerant oat variety.

Nitrogen should be applied at planting or as an early-top dressing at 0.75 lbs. of nitrogen per expected bushel of oat yield per acre. Most oats are grown following a soybean crop in Iowa. A nitrogen credit of 1 lb./bu. of soybeans harvested should be deducted from this recommendation up to a maximum of 50 lbs. Phosphate (P205) and potash (K20) applications should be based on soil tests. A maintenance application of P205 and K20 is recommended in the absence of a current soil test. A bushel of oats and the straw produced will remove approximately 0.4 lbs. of P205 and 1.0 lb. of K20 from the soil. A soil pH range between 6.0 - 7.0 is adequate for growing oats. Contact your Cass County ISU Extension office at 712-243-1132 for more information about high yield oat production.

Improve grass pastures by frost seeding

BY MICHAEL L. WHITE
Field Crops Specialist

Frost seeding involves broadcasting legume seed in late winter or early spring. January and February are considered the best time, but it can still be done in March. The freezing and thawing action of the soil and raindrop splash provides the only soil covering for the seed. Adequate rainfall in April and May is probably the most critical factor for a successful frost seeding.

All commonly grown legumes can be established by frost seeding. Medium red clover, alsike clover, and ladino clover tend to establish quicker than alfalfa, birdsfoot trefoil, and crownvetch. Grasses can also be frost seeded, but often are less successful than legumes. The grasses best suited for frost seeding and order of their chance of success, are orchardgrass, timothy, tall fescue, and

bromegrass. Switchgrass, a warm season prairie grass is also commonly established by frost seeding.

One or two early grazings or mowings to reduce the established grass competition the first year will increase the survival percentage of the frost seeding. Broadcasting the seed with fertilizer is not a good idea. The fertilizer increases the growth of the established pasture at the expense of the frost seeding.

Thickening up a stand with a mixture of grasses and legumes has many positives. Diverse pasture stands are more disease and pest resistant and will still produce under varying weather conditions. Legumes added to an existing grass pasture will increase production, protein, and average daily gain. Legumes established into a grass pasture can completely eliminate the need

for nitrogen fertilizer. A 1/3 legume component can replace 100 - 120 lbs. of added nitrogen per acre. More information on frost seeding can be obtained at your Cass County ISU Extension office. Call 712-243-1132 and ask for "Improving Pasture by Frost Seeding" pm-856.

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.

To advertise in the Farm Monthly call
243-2624

There are more than a thousand good reasons to buy this loader!

Get a \$1000 DISCOUNT when you buy a new Bobcat 863 skid-steer loader by March 31, 1999!

That takes care of the first thousand reasons. Some of the others are:

- 1,900 lb. rated operating capacity
- 73.5 hp turbo-charged diesel engine
- 121-inch lift height
- Extended wheelbase for smooth ride
- 7.2 mph travel speed
- High-flow option package available
- Excellent hydraulic breakout
- Wide choice of versatile attachments
- Advanced hand control option



Your Bobcat Headquarters:

ATLANTIC IMPLEMENT CO., INC.

HWY. 6 & 71 • ATLANTIC, IA 50022 • 712-243-1778 • 1-800-645-5036

Save a GRAND on a GREAT loader!



The Bobcat Advantage
Total Value That Can't Be Matched!

4-H Leaders of the Month

Jodi Kneisel

Address: RR. Griswold
Age: 17
Parents: Doug and Sandy
Name of Club: Pleasant Noble United
Years in 4-H: 8

What projects have you carried in 4-H?

Food and nutrition, home improvements, visual arts, swine and clothing.

What have you done on the local club level?

I have been President of our club for two years, vice president for one year, worked on the Mardi Gras, and volleyball tournament.

What have you done on the county level?

Participated at County Fair in clothing selection, decorator's showcase, herdsman's judge, queen contest, Best of Iowa, swine show, working exhibit, radio interviews.

What highlight of your 4-H career stands out most in your mind?

Being selected for Youth Council.

Why do you like being a



Junior Leader?

It gives me a chance to meet the younger 4-Hers and teach them things that older members have taught me.

How do you feel about 4-H?

4-H has given me a chance to try new things, meet new people and learn new things. There is so much I'd be missing out on without it.

Future plans?

Attend a four-year college or university.

Stacie DeBord

Address: Atlantic
Age: 18
Parents: Larry and Judy
Name of Club: Bear Grove Blazers
Years in 4-H: 9

What projects have you carried in 4-H?

I have carried projects in swine, beef, clothing, safety, conservation, communications, leadership, child development, photography and veterinary science.

What have you done on the local club level?

I have held the offices of historian, reporter, treasurer, secretary, president, and currently vice president.

What have you done on the county level?

I have participated in the county for nine years. I have participated in Speak Out For Agriculture (SOFA) for three years. I am currently on the SOFA Planning Committee. I was selected as a 1997/98 Cass County Youth Council member. I was a delegate at the 1998 State Conference in Ames last July. I was a Junior Superintendent for Clothing Selection the past two years. I am now serving as secretary for the Youth Action Committee and am a current member of the Southwest Iowa Area Council.

What highlight of your 4-H career stands out most in your mind?

Almost everything I have done could be considered a highlight. County fair would probably be the most memorable because you get to share your projects with others. Showing my pigs is my favorite part of the fair. You work so hard getting them ready for fair, and then during the show, you get credit for all the hard work. You also get to work and communicate



learn and have fun through 4-H. Helping them helps me with my leadership and communication skills. I learned to respect the younger kids and feel that they respect me.

How do you feel about 4-H?

4-H is a growing experience that teaches you many life skills. It teaches you skills in communications and leadership. It also teaches you how about self esteem and citizenship and encourages you to learn. It teaches you how to set and reach goals and how to keep accurate records through record books. It also teaches you how to get things done before deadlines. It helps you discover who you are and what you want out of life. It is something that will help me the rest of my life.

Future plans?

I plan to attend Iowa State University and major in Public Services and Administration in Agriculture.

Why do you like being a Junior Leader?

I like being a junior leader because I get to help younger kids with their projects and help them

Faga-Jorgensen, Inc.

Adair, Iowa

1-800-443-3242



Avoca, Iowa

1-800-524-9140

"We Make It Work"

**Complete Parts Department
and Auto Body
Shop With The Latest In
Equipment and Technology.**

Plus

**New & Used
Cars & Trucks**

Wyman Ford Inc.

Griswold, Iowa • 712-778-2126 • Southwest Iowa Truck Headquarters



**Southside
Welding
and MACHINE**

Audubon, IA 50025

Business (712) 563-4204 • FAX (712) 563-3542



Heavy machine work, truck rearend housings and trailer axle repair. Driveshaft and hydraulic cylinder repair

Hyd. hose 2 braid or 4 braid 1/4" to 2" sizes

Industrial Park south end of Audubon.

Poetry Corner

Springtime Romance

By Grace Rassmussen

Foolish Iowa
Cast lovesick eyes
At Mistress spring
Letting eager Crocus
Flirt with her
Jealous March
Cast a spell of snow
To fall over all
And swooped
Off in a huff.

**We offer fast fuel and propane
delivery to the farm, home and
business site.**

**Olsen
Fuel Supply**

112 Commerce St.
Atlantic, IA
243-2340

"Your New Holland Dealer"



*We Salute
Our Area
Pork
Producers!*

See Duane McFadden, Rick Tasto or Lonn Schlueter in our Sales Department.



Lindeman Tractor, Inc.

W. 7th Street • Atlantic, IA • 712-243-3735

