

INSIDE IOWA TODAY

News of
Interest

Thursday,
Jan. 26, 2006

For the DYSART REPORTER, NORTHERN SUN-PRINT, REINBECK COURIER, TAMA NEWS-HERALD, TRAER STAR-CLIPPER

Conserving Soil and Water in Tama County

2006 Annual Report

Conservation Security Program

By Larry E. Jones
Tama County NRCS District Conservationist

The Conservation Security Program (CSP) has come to Tama County for 2006. Any land located in Tama County that drains into the Iowa River is eligible to be signed up for the program. CSP is administered by USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

Overview

The (CSP) is a voluntary conservation program that supports ongoing stewardship of private agricultural lands by providing payments for maintaining and enhancing natural resources. CSP identifies and rewards those farmers and ranchers who are meeting the highest standards of conservation and environmental management on their operations.

Eligibility

Applicants: Agricultural producers – individuals or entities engaged in livestock or agricultural production on working lands – may participate in CSP. There are, however, circumstances that limit an individual's or entity's participation; these include:

- The applicant must have control of the land for the life of the contract.
- The applicant must share in the risk of producing any crop or livestock and be entitled to a share in the crop or livestock marketed from the operation.
- The applicant must be in compliance with highly erodible land and wetland conservation provisions.
- The adjusted gross income provision of the 2002 Farm Bill impacts eligibility for CSP and several other 2002 Farm Bill programs. Individuals or entities that have an average adjusted gross income exceeding \$2.5 million for the three tax years immediately preceding the year the contract is approved are not eligible to receive program benefits or payments. However, an exemption is provided in cases where 75 percent of the adjusted gross income is derived from farming, ranching, or forestry operations.
- Applicants may submit only one application. Participants can only have one active contract at any one time. Participants can receive payment on only one contract.
- Applications with multiple beneficiaries must provide Social Security numbers at the time of application for purposes of monitoring payment limitations.

Land: Private agricultural land eligible for CSP includes cropland, grassland, prairie land, improved pasture land, and rangeland. Also, private non-industrial forested land that is an incidental part of the agriculture operation (limited to up to ten percent of the contract acres) is eligible. The majority of the agricultural operation must be within one of the selected watersheds.

Land that is not eligible for CSP includes:

- Land owned by Federal and State governments and their political subdivisions;
- Land enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, the Wetlands Reserve Program, or the Grassland Reserve Program; in addition, land accepted in a recent CRP sign-up for contract development is not eligible;
- Land used for crop production after May 13, 2002, that had not been planted, considered to be planted, or devoted to crop production as determined by NRCS, for at least 4 of the 6 years preceding May 13, 2002 is not eligible for any CSP payment.

See SECURITY, Page 5B

Photo by NRCS



SWCD Commissioners for Tama County

Front row: David Beane, Commissioner; Jeff Bruene, Commissioner; and Larry Jones, District Conservationist. Back Row: Mike Snider, Commissioner/Vice Chairman; Jody Kasal, Commissioner/Chairman; Dean McKenna, Commissioner; and Jan Wobeter, Assistant Commissioner. Absent from the picture was Chris Behrens, Assistant Commissioner.



Tama County Soil and Water Conservation District Office

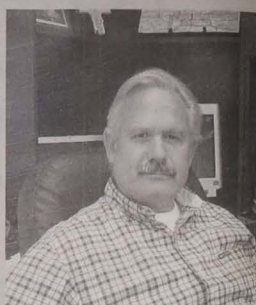
Front row, left to right: Melody Bro, Resource Conservation Technician; Nancy Havran, District Secretary; Julie Watkins, Soil Conservation Technician. Second row left to right: Mark Pokorny, Resource Conservation Technician; Larry Jones, District Conservationist; Chester Worden, Soil Conservation Technician.



Al Ehley is new Area Conservationist with NRCS in West Union

As a newcomer to northeast Iowa, I am pleased to have the opportunity to work with Soil and Water Conservation Districts and NRCS Field Offices in their efforts to control soil erosion and improve water quality. Northeast Iowa has a long and well known reputation to use a wide variety of conservation practices to control erosion and maintain a quality environment. As I drive the highways and back roads of this area, I can see the application of past conservation practices and how they have been matched with the natural rolling landscape.

One way the NRCS is recognizing farmers for their past efforts to control soil erosion are with the Conservation Security Program, commonly called CSP. Different watersheds across the nation are being selected for enrollment into CSP. Farmers within those watersheds can develop a contract with NRCS and receive annual payments to maintain good conservation on their land. I like the motto used with



Al Ehley

CSP, "Rewards the Best, Motivates the Rest". That says it all.

NRCS continues to support traditional conservation programs such as EQIP, CRP, and WRP. I encourage you to visit your local NRCS and SWCD Office for more information on these and other conservation programs.

State of Iowa helps with conservation

By Chester Worden
Tama Soil Conservation
Technician

There are four different programs that the Iowa Department of Agriculture has to help farmers with soil and water conservation practices. They are administered in Tama County by the Tama Soil and Water Conservation District and NRCS.

The program most used is called "Iowa Financial Incentives Program" (IFIP). Approved applicants receive 50% state cost-share up to a yearly maximum amount. The Tama County maximum amount was raised to \$5,000.00 in 2005 from the old maximum of \$1,500.00. Farmers can do a project that costs \$10,000 and get half of it from the state. Projects much

be for a soil conservation purpose like grassed waterways, structures and terraces. Recreational ponds and Waste Storage Facilities are not eligible for state cost-share. Each District may have different rules for their county land.

The other cost-share program offered in Iowa is called REAP (Rural Enhancement and Protection). Windbreaks, some forestry practices and a few native grass seedings may be cost-shared with REAP funds. Each practice has different amounts and percentages of cost-share.

There are two loan programs for conservation practices. A new loan program just started in 2005 is entitled "Local Water Protection Program" (LWPP). It is a low interest loan program a landowner can get from their

local lending institution for approved projects. The lender works with the owner and Iowa Finance Authority to get the loan approved. The loan can be from \$5,000 to \$50,000 with an interest rate of 3%. It can be used with state or EQIP cost-share programs or approved practices not receiving any cost-share. Some examples would be terraces, grassed waterways, structures and Waste Storage and Handling Facilities funded with EQIP. An older loan program is only for state cost-share projects and has 0% interest. It is not for waste storage facilities, with an upper loan limit of \$10,000.

Land owners interested in any of these programs should contact the Tama County Office at 203 W. High in Toledo (641-484-2702).

IOWA FINANCIAL INCENTIVES PROGRAM

July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005 (Fiscal Year 2005)

04/05	Funds Obligated	\$ 867.00
	Balance Remaining	\$ 7,073.00
Allocation	— \$38,808.00	
Funds Obligated	— \$17,677.40	
Balance Remaining	— \$21,130.60	
03/04	Funds Obligated	\$ 1,842.00
	Balance Remaining	\$ 143.00
Allocation	— \$26,439.94	
Funds Obligated	— \$25,942.76	
Balance Remaining	— \$ 497.18	
02/03	Funds Obligated	\$ 555.30
	Balance Remaining	\$ 52.80
Allocation	— \$40,643.36	
Funds Obligated	— \$39,482.72	
Balance Remaining	\$ 1,160.64	
REAP Practices		
Allocation	\$ 7,940.00	

District Accomplishments and NRCS/SWCD Projects

Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan	1
Conservation Cover	158 ac.
Conservation Crop Rotation	2,401 ac.
Contour Farming	427 ac.
Critical Area Planting	12 ac.
Diversion	900 ft.
Early Successional Habitat Development/Management	84 ac.
Fence/2,646 ft.	
Field Border	3,779 ft.
Filter Strip	61 ac.
Forage Harvest Management	3 ac.
Forest Stand Improvement	25 ac.
Grade Stabilization Structure	6
Grassed Waterway	96 ac.
Nutrient Management	172 ac.
Pasture and Hay Planting	85 ac.
Pest Management	138 ac.
Prescribed Grazing	35 ac.
Residue Management, Mulch Till	2,607 ac.
Residue Management, No-Till/Strip Till	647 ac.
Terrace	4,178 ft.
Underground Outlet	2,945 ft.
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management	129 ac.
Use Exclusion	293 ac.
Waste Storage Facility	One
Water & Sediment Control Basin	8
Watering Facility	One
Wetland Enhancement	2 ac.
Wetland Restoration	47 ac.
Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management	6 ac.

These are the accomplishments for the Natural Resources Conservation Service and Tama Soil and Water Conservation District office in Tama County.

Grand prize winner in Grocery Sack Recycling

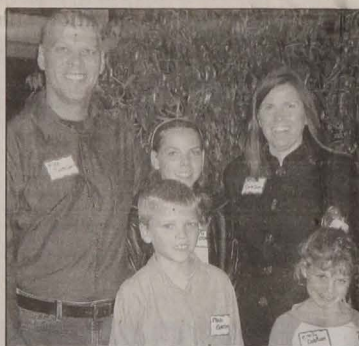
AT RIGHT- Charlie Dobson, standing in between her parents, was the Grand Prize winner of the Grocery Sack Recycling contest.

There were over 300 students that participated in this contest in grades 3 through 5.

After the sacks are judged by the District, the sacks are returned to the local grocery stores that donated them.

Charlie received a free airplane ride that was donated by Jeff Else of Tama.

Charlie is a student at Dysart Elementary Schools.



Miller joins Toledo staff

Hi, my name is Clint Miller. I was born and raised in Hamburg, a small town of 1,200 people in extreme southwestern Iowa.

I attended Iowa State University where I graduated with a degree in Forestry in the winter of 2002. I have worked in four field offices, including Sac City and Iowa City as a student trainee, and Jefferson and Osceola following graduation.

With my appointment as Soil Conservationist (Tribal Liaison), at the Toledo office, I have completed my "tour" of the state, working in all five of



Clint Miller

member of the Soil and Water Conservation Society, the Story County Amateur Radio Club and the Disaster Action Team at the Lincoln Way Chapter of the American Red Cross.

I am excited to have to have the opportunity to work with the Toledo field office staff and the Sac and Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa. Go Cyclones!

the NRCS areas in Iowa.

I was married in 2001 to my wife, Michelle, and we currently live in Ames with our cat and two beagles. My hobbies include camping, ham radio, RC racing, disaster preparedness, home improvement and watching football.

I also dabble in urban forestry consultation. I am a

Opening grain prices on Friday, Jan. 20, 2006: Central Counties Co-op, Traer, corn \$1.65; beans \$5.17; Tama Benton Co-op, Dysart, corn \$1.68; beans \$5.15; Werner's Grain and Feed, Tama, corn \$1.66, beans \$5.13.

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and
the conservation
efforts of the
landowners
in Tama County**

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Dennis, Kelly and Kalan Deke: Urban Conservation Award

Dennis and Kelly enjoy gardening. They were both raised with parents and grandparents who enjoyed planting flowers and gardens. They enjoy taking day-trips sightseeing in Iowa along the Mississippi River, antiquing and dining out.

Both Kelly and Dennis work for Lennox Manufacturing in Marshalltown. Kalan is a 2nd grader at North Tama and enjoys collecting candy Pez dispensers.



Marvin and Camilla Dostal: Owner/Operator Award

Marvin & Camilla Dostal, Owner/Operator Award: The Dostals have three sons, Craig and Carrie live in Urbandale; Major Brad and Angie living in Alexandria, Virginia and Kevin and Janet in Holt, Mo.

The Dostals have 7 grandchildren: Jace, Kaden, Brennan, Arienne, Bryant, Joshua and Alayna.

Marvin enjoys woodworking projects, agricultural projects and innovations and reading. Camilla enjoys baking and cooking, the out of doors, especially during calving season and the newborn calves.

See OWNER/OP, page 5B



Jeff Zobel: New Windbreak Award

Jeff Zobel: Jeff was Tama County's New Windbreak Award recipient. (He was unable to attend the banquet).

He planted ninebark and cardinal dogwood shrubs, white pine and blue spruce evergreens. This windbreak was planted 5 years ago on

what originally was his grandmother's farm. He has made many improvements and continues to do so.

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Leonard & Maryan Dostal /Calvin Dostal: Landlord/Tenant Award

Leonard and Maryan have five living children and Thomas, deceased. JoAnn and her husband, Chuck Murphy, of Dike, have three children: Michael, Jason and Lindsey. Loren and wife, Sarah, of Toledo, have three boys: Trace, Zach and Jacob. Jeffrey and wife, Julie, of Traer, have two children, Nicholas and Megan. Son, Martin and friend, Anita Zmolek, are from Traer.

The Dostal family has traveled the southern and eastern states. Four years ago Leonard and Maryan drove to Alaska over the Alaskan Highway. Maryan's brother, Carlton, helped in the construction of the then called Alcon Highway. Recently the Dostals have spent some time wintering in Texas.

Leonard retired in 1996 from insurance adjusting. Maryan retired from Traer Manufacturing in 2000. At the present time they deliver boat trailers and equipment for SHORE Distributing in Garwin.

See LANDLORD, page 5B



Michael & Suzanne McFate: Rural Backyard Conservation Award

Michael and Suzanne have three children and 5 grandchildren. Their entire family reside in Toledo, Iowa. Their family enjoys camping, fishing, gardening and landscaping their yards. The McFates have lived on the acreage for 29 years. When they moved to their present location, there were no flowers, bushes, or any type of landscaping. Their acreage is 5 acres and all of it is mowed and landscaped.

Mike enjoys wood working, landscaping, camping and fishing. Sue enjoys gardening, landscaping, camping, hiking and scrap booking.

The McFates are both retired. Mike worked in the office of Fisher Controls for 30 years and Sue managed the lunch program at the South Tama Middle School for 16 years.



Robert Speirs: Wildlife Award

Bob is married to Paula and they have three children: Scott, Britt and Elle. Bob's Dad, Sandy Speirs, who is deceased, was born on the farm and lived his entire life there.

Bob enjoys attending his children's activities, pheasant hunting and improving the wildlife habitat on his conservation acres. The food plots have 3 types of sorghum. The heads droop under

See WILDLIFE AWARD, page 6B



Dennis & Pat Greiner: Established Windbreak Award:

The Greiners have been married for 39 years and have two children: Keri, married to Steve who have two children, Marissa and Joshua, and son, Brad, who is married to Jennifer.

The Greiners have varied interests and enjoy biking on the Minnesota and Iowa trails. They also enjoy the lake and cabin life at Walker, Minn., piloting and RC models. They also have a floral shop in their walk-out basement and enjoy flowers and outside yard work.

The Greiners are self-employed in farming and also maintain a

See WIND, page 5B



Mitchell & Diana Wieben: Conservation Tillage Award

Mitchell and Diana Wieben with their two children, Miranda, 10 and Sam, 7.

Mitchell and Diana enjoy spending time with their family at their lake home at Holiday Lake, going to their children's sporting events, attending stock car and NASCAR races and riding snowmobiles in the winter.

They been farming for 16 years and farms 2,100 acres of corn, seed corn and soybeans. Mitchell states, "We strip till our corn planting NH3, P and K in 30" beds in the fall. In the spring we use GPS auto track RTK to run our planter over the beds we made in the fall. We plant our soybeans in 30" rows between the old corn rows."

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Tama Soil and Water Conservation District Accomplishments

District Accomplishments (July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005)

July: The District's Annual Work Plan was reviewed and changes were made to update. A Watermelon Feed was held at the Tama County Fair. This was free to the public. Conservation Award winners were selected and will be honored at the Annual Awards Banquet which is held in November.

August: Senator John Putney and Representative Lance Horbach were invited to attend the August meeting to share how the District's dollars are spent when having a fund raising project. Cost share funding was reviewed. Two individuals have given the District permission to install signs "Entering & Leaving Tama County".

September: Price estimates and actual cost of conservation projects were discussed. The cost share amount of \$5,000 or 50% a landowner can receive for a conservation project was approved. Stan Dostal gave a report on the CDI Regional meeting that was held in DeWitt. The District commissioners were invited to the Union Grove Lake and Park Holding steak fry on September 23rd.

October: The Annual Conservation Awards Banquet plans were finalized. Mike Snider was appointed as assistant commissioner. The Soil Conservation Technician position was offered this month. The EQIP program has now been turned over to NRCS from FSA.

November: Chris Behrens was appointed as assistant commissioner. Julie Watkins, Soil Conservation Technician, was introduced as a new employee. The District employees' salary was reviewed and raised for both employees. A District audit will be conducted by Commissioners Bruene and Haynes.

December: The District approved a new 319/WPF Water Quality Project located at the Hickory Hills Lake Park. This will be a three-year project. The theme for the grocery sack recycling contest was announced. Cathy Wieck, Assistant Commissioner, will contact the schools.

January: The District Annual Work Plan was reviewed and changes were made. Jody Kasal was elected Chairman of Tama SWCD. Jeff Bruene was elected Vice-Chairman. Nancy Havran was elected as treasurer and secretary. Committee appointments were made. New Commissioner orientation training will be attended by Mike Snider, Dean McKenna and Jody Kasal. It was decided to order ninebark shrubs for a 6th grade students in Tama County. The contractors meeting will be held February 9th at the Nature Center.

February: Discussion was held regarding a request for funding for District Employees. This funding would be received from CDI and NRCS. The District was asked to support a Cedar River Watershed Assessment and Nutrient Loading Reduction BMP Demonstration Project. This will be a voluntary program to reduce nitrates in the Cedar River. EQIP funding for Tama County will be approximately \$100,000.00.

March: Discussion was held regarding the value of doing a newsletter three times a year. Scholarship applications were reviewed and awarded to Brooke Albertsen and Carissa Colvin. Spring construction will soon begin.

April: A newsletter will be published by the District twice a year. Chris Taliga, RC&D coordinator attended the SWCD meeting to inform the Commissioners what RC&D is doing. The District's trees for the tree sales campaign will be picked up and delivered by Stan Dostal. Larry Jones, District Conservationist, will be detailed to other counties when the CSP sign-up begins. Currently conservation projects are being completed that have been funded by EQIP and state cost share.

May: Donald Lewis, Entomologist, will be the featured speaker at the Annual Conservation Awards Banquet which will be held in November. It was decided that the District will again conduct a tree sales campaign for 2006. Conservation award winners will be selected by commissioners on May 24th. Paul Valin, Field Representative, attended the District meeting and gave a report on the spring regional meeting and to share information on the new watershed improvement program that is included in Senate File 200. Larry Jones met with members of the Dysart DDC to discuss concerns they have regarding some land that is washing out in Dysart and some possible solutions.

June: The newsletter is being printed and will be processed by the Senior Citizen organization in the next few days. A free Watermelon feed will be conducted at the Tama County Fair by the District on July 23rd. Resolutions for the Annual CDI meeting are due in August. The Annual Work Plan will be reviewed in July to be updated.

Partners of Soil and Water Conservation



FSA Staff members

(L-R), Front row: Karla Novotny, Amy Castillo, Joyce Wiener, Nancy Smith - all Program Technicians. Back row: Nikki Novak, Program Technician; Gene Long, County Executive Director; Bill Riley, Farm Loan Manager.



Iowa Extension Service

(Left to right) Jackie Skala, County Youth Coordinator, Debbie Van Arkel, Interim County Extension Education Director, Bonnie Murty, Office Assistant and Anita Kasal, Tobacco Grant Coordinator.



Tama News-Herald/Toledo Chronicle Staff: Friends of Conservation Award

These individuals have been instrumental in composing and setting up the District's newsletters and Annual Report which appear yearly in the Tama County supplement. They include (left to right, front): Darius Carr, Kathy Zars and Kenna Jo Lambertsen. (Back, l-r) John Speer, Barb Crain, Deb Kouba, Nancy Sund and Charley Townsley. The District appreciates all of the assistance the newspaper staff has demonstrated in the past and looks forward to continue to work with them.

CRP News

By Mark Pokorny
Resource Conservation
Technician

There has been a welcome change in the Conservation Reserve Program in recent weeks. The CRP rental rates have been revised upward for the most part. The soil types with a corn suitability rating (CSR) between 0-60 went up

an average of \$15.33 per acre. Soil types with a CSR rating from 60-100 went up an average of \$7.50 per acre. The only exception is the marginal pasture rental rate, it was not changed. This is in effect as of 12-15-05 and will pertain to all new applications only. This change should help the CRP program stay competitive in the future for Tama County.

Another recent development in the continuous CRP program is the addition of another new practice. The new practice, Habitat Buffers for Upland Birds (CP-33) is geared towards helping in the decline of grassland songbirds and quail populations in the state of Iowa. With this new

practice, landowners can install buffers around the edges of existing crop fields, preferably next to woody cover. Buffer widths can range from 30 to 120 feet wide. The buffers cannot be used for turn strips, access lanes, or for storage of crops or equipment. This practice has been available in southern Iowa last year. It has been expanded to all of Iowa this year to maximize the eligible acres and improve habitat for these birds with declining populations.

Please feel free to give us a call, or stop in if you have any questions regarding these topics or any other concerns you may have on your farm. Thank you.

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Tama County Fair 4-H Conservation Awards



These individuals received a \$50 Savings Bond from the District for their Conservation Projects that were entered in the Tama County Fair. They also were honored at the Awards Banquet. They are as follows: (L-R) Front row: Angela Wraga, Emma Knoop, Amy Ledvina and Adam Ledvina. Back row: David Bruene, Chris Hoeg, Matthew Plett and Rob Heise. Absent: Jennifer Nieland.

Scholarships from Tama SWCD

The Tama Soil and Water Conservation District and the Conservation Districts of Iowa are conducting a Scholarship Contest.

The purpose of these scholarships is to present it to Iowa high school seniors to be used for their first year of education on the college level while pursuing a study in any field of agriculture or natural resources.

The District will be awarding two scholarships for graduating seniors of the class of 2006. The first place scholarship will be for \$300 and the second place scholarship award will be in the amount of \$200.

The first place scholarship application will then be forwarded to CDI and Auxiliary. Three scholarships will be

Scholarships awarded

Brooke Albertsen, daughter of Becky and Frank Albertsen, a graduate of South Tama, is currently attending Iowa State University pursuing a degree in Public Service & Administration in Agriculture, as well as Animal Science with an emphasis on breeding and genetics. Brooke received a \$200 scholarship from the District.

Carissa Colvin, daughter of Warren and Beverly Colvin and a graduate of North Tama, is attending Kirkwood Community College studying to be a veterinary technician. Carissa received a \$300 scholarship from the District.

awarded on the state level in the amounts of \$1,500; \$1,000; and \$800. Regional winners from the other six regions who do not receive the state awards will each receive \$200. The first, second and third place awards will be paid directly to the school of choice in two

installments, beginning with the first term of attendance and at mid-term or semester. The \$200 award will be paid directly to the students.

If you have any questions please feel free to call the office and speak with Nancy at 641-484-2702.

Assistance available for soil and water projects

By Julie Watkins
Soil Conservation
Technician

Do you have erosion concerns? Want to reshape a waterway? Need a watering facility for your livestock? How about trying a prescribed grazing system to utilize your pasture better?

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has cost share assistance available through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). This is a voluntary conservation program that promotes agricultural production and environmental quality. This program is available to farmers and offers financial and technical assistance to install or implement structural and management practices on eligible agricultural land. In Tama County, the primary resources to be treated using EQIP funds are sheet and till soil erosion, ephemeral gully soil erosion, classic gully soil ero-

sion, surface water contamination from sediment, surface water contamination from organic, and surface water contamination from nutrients.

The EQIP contract is carried out according to a conservation plan developed in conjunction with the producer. This plan identifies the appropriate practices to address the resource concerns. EQIP applications are prioritized for funding using a locally developed ranking worksheet that generally considers which resources are to be treated and the locations of the contract. Funded EQIP applications result in a contract that lists the practices to be applied along with an application schedule and federal funds committed. The minimum contract length is one year after the implementation of the last scheduled practice with a maximum length of 10 years. The implemented practices are subject to NRCS technical standards. Landowners may elect to use NRCS or a Technical Ser-

vice Provider, if available, for EQIP technical assistance. All conservation practices applied with EQIP funds are to be maintained for the service life of the practice, which may be longer than the term of the EQIP contract. Cost-share and incentive payments are not available to applicants who have already adopted and/or applied the practice(s).

There are several conservation practices eligible for cost share or incentive payments. Terraces, waterways, grade stabilization structures, pasture and hayland planning, nutrient management, fencing (internal fences for grazing systems only), watering facility (needed to facilitate prescribed grazing) composting facility and prescribed grazing are a few practices on the list. Cost share rates range from 50% to 35%. If you are interested or have any questions about the program stop in the office at 203 W. High St. in Toledo or call 641-484-2702.



Mary Broeker: Buffer Initiative Award:

Mary writes, "Our son John is the person who first learned about and brought to completion this project, so it seems fitting to tell you about him. John Broeker is married to Missy. They are the parents of Jack (age 8) and Nick (age 5). They live in Springfield, Ill. Younger brother, David and his wife, Susan, live in Philadelphia. Little sister, Ann, lives in Washington, D.C."



Mary Broeker

"John loves fishing and hunting. He first fished when he was 3 or 4 and we were in Gladbrook visiting Grandma Broeker. John caught his first fish at Union Grove Lake. It was a sunfish he named Sunny. He hunts in Iowa almost every year."

"John is a Pharmaceutical Sales Specialist. He is a member of his church, Pheasants Forever and helps coach Jack's football team."

"Our Riparian Buffer is 27

1/2 acres on what has been and continues to be known as Couart's Farm. It is so named because it was owned by George and Olinda Couart who left it to their nephew John W. (Jack) Broeker who then left it to our children."

"Ken and Jean Sievers now farm the land. Before them Karl and Pat Wiebeudeu lived on and farmed the land after taking over from Karl's parents."

"Ken talked with Ervin Hass to get some historical information about the farm and learned that the first crops were planted in the mid 1800's using the chopped hole method of digging holes in the sod and planting 2 kernels of corn in each hole - a far cry from the minimum till and no till methods Ken now uses."

"Mr. Hass also told the story of how raccoons came to Tama County. It seems George Couart noticed there were no raccoons so he had a pair sent from North Carolina. He and Mr. Hass released them into Couart's Park near Wolf Creek from where the buffer is now flourishing. The rest, as they say, is history."

"As a result of this buffer of a variety of trees including black walnut and white pine, song birds, small mammals, pheasant and deer have found a habitat."

Security, from page 3B

Application Process

Applicants are encouraged to attend preliminary workshops, which are announced locally. At the workshop, basic qualifications are explained, and assistance is provided to help attendees understand the self-assessment workbook and benchmark inventory.

Producers begin the application process by filling out a self-assessment to determine if they meet the basic qualifications for CSP. Self-assessment workbooks are available in hard copy at USDA Service Centers within the watersheds, and electronically for download or from an interactive Web site linked from the CSP Web page.

Once producers determine that they meet the minimum requirements for CSP, as outlined in the workbook, they should turn in their completed

6-part application folder to the NRCS office.

In order to apply, applicants must submit a completed 6-part folder, including all required forms indicated on the 6-part folder checklist.

Based on the application, description of current conservation activities, and the interview, NRCS determines CSP eligibility and in which program tier and enrollment category the applicant may participate.

For Tier I, the producer must have addressed soil quality and water quality to the described minimum level of treatment for eligible land use on part of the agricultural operation prior to acceptance.

For Tier II, the producer must have addressed soil quality and water quality to the described minimum level of

treatment on all eligible land uses on the entire agricultural operation prior to acceptance and agree to address an additional resource concern, wildlife habitat, by the end of the contract period.

For Tier III, the producer must have addressed all applicable resource concerns, soil, water, and wildlife, to a resource management system level that meets the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide standards on all eligible land uses on the entire agricultural operation before acceptance into the program and have riparian zones adequately treated.

Please contact the NRCS office at 203 W. High St in Toledo, 641-484-2702, if you have any questions about the Conservation Security Program.

Landlord, from page 3B

The Dostals belong to the Immaculate Conception Church in Clutter. Leonard has served on the church board. Maryann is president of the Rosary Society. Leonard belongs to the National Farmers Organization, serving as president for several years. The Dostals are members of the K.D. Lodge 130 now known as the F.C.S.L.A.

Calvin Dostal Calvin's parents are Myrna and Stanley Dostal. He has two sisters, Brenda (Ed) Hoeg and Carrie (Matt) Carlton, nephews, Joe and Chris Hoeg and a niece, Amanda Hoeg.

Calvin collects International

Harvester farm toys and memorabilia.

He is part owner with his parents of Dostal Farms Inc. They farm 500 acres raising corn and soybeans and have a farrow to feeder pig operation selling 2500 feeder pigs yearly. He also works part time for Dostal Construction operating a dozer to reshape and build new waterways and other conservation structures.

Calvin is a member of Immaculate Conception Church, NFO, Farmers Union, Farm Bureau, Tama County 4-H fair swine committee.

Calvin states: "We first rented

this 147-acre piece of ground in 1991. The year we started farming this ground, the crops were first time planted on the contour and no till. On our farm we started to minimum no-till in the 60's and later added contouring. Since we started farming this land I helped close a large open ditch that run the length of the farm. This was one of several waterways projects I have worked on. The waterway was also tiled and seeded. We continue to maintain the waterways by reshaping, seeding, using fabric strips and mowing. We also have grass turn strips for the end rows."

Owner/Op, from page 3B

Organizations that the Dostals are members of include the following: Farm Bureau, Iowa Soybean Association, Iowa Corn Growers Association, Cattlemen's Association, Red Angus Association. They are members of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Clutter, K.D. Lodge (F.C.S.L.A.); Director of Bohemian Mutual and former 4-H leader for 10 years.

The Dostals write the following: "Our farm operation consists of 760 acres. Marvin was raised on the farm where we live and we are happily married for 40 years."

"We maintain a Red Angus Cross herd of 45 stock cows. We usually feed out our calves, but the last two years we've sold some at the pre-conditioned calf sale in December at Tama Livestock. The cow herd utilizes the

permanent pasture and hay crop grown on the farm and grazes the crop stubble in the fall and winter."

"The crops include a corn-soybean rotation on most acres. Also hay and pasture ground with 20 acres being permanent pasture. Corn is planted using the no-till method after soybeans. We utilize row cleaners and row closing wheels and starter fertilizer. Soybeans are planted on corn stalk ground disked once in the spring and no-till on sod ground using the Roundup system. We have established waterways on all acres including main line waterways and small upland type. Crops are planted on the contour and cross slope where possible. Otherwise, crops are planted no-till to hold soil loss to acceptable limits. Along the larger streams, we have established buffer strips

with one having 120 ft. buffers on either side. We have grass back terraces protecting across on one farm and farmable terraces on the other farms. Also on field ends we maintain grass buffer strips."

Conservation practices are always given top priority to maintain and preserve productivity for now and future generations."

Windbreak, from page 3B

floral and gift shop. Dennis is a veteran and a member of the American Legion, and QB Flying Club.

The Greiners write: "The farm is located 1/2 mile west of Dinsdale on which the windbreak award was given. It was

our home for 25 years from 1976 to 2001. We relocated to Reinbeck in June of 2001."

"We continue to farm the acres that join Denny's family farm 1 mile west. July 2005 marked 39 years that we have been a team farming with no-

till and minimum tillage 50/50."

"We both grew up on family farms loving the freedom that comes with this occupation as well as the discipline this lifestyle demands. We feel that has been a gift from God in which we are very grateful."

Tama County Soil and Water Conservation District TREE and SHRUB FUNDRAISING

Concolor Fir Norway Spruce Black Hills Spruce White Spruce
White Pine Blue Spruce Bur Oak Pin Oak Red Oak
Sugar Maple American Cranberry Red-Osier Dogwood

All are bare root and come in bundles of 25

Native Nut Tree Shade Tree
Wildlife Shrub Packages Also Available
Orders must be received by MARCH 16, 2006
Call or stop in for an order blank

TAMA SWCD
203 W. High,
Toledo, IA 52342
641-484-2702

Tama County Pheasants Forever will be planting thousands of trees and shrubs this spring as part of our conservation efforts

Need a project for your service group?

We Need You!

Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, FFA, Camp Fire and your parents!

Call Todd Karr, President
641-492-6022 or
Dave Meggers 319-478-8650 to coordinate

ALLIANT ENERGY
We're on for you.

FROM OUT OF THE PAST.....

MARIE K. VILETA

Conservation on the Settlement

When Dr. Jacob Bried arrived at the Sac and Fox Settlement in 1920 to become the superintendent, he noted that there was wastefulness on the grounds that was unfit for cultivation. Since there also was a fast disappearing fuel supply and a diminishing source for fence posts, he determined to remedy the situation. Forest areas in Iowa had never been very extensive since it was basically a prairie state but river bottoms were quite wooded and adjacent hilly regions were prolific in the growth of deciduous trees, including oak, elm, cottonwood, willow, maple, ash and nut trees. Much of Iowa is also in the belt comprising the natural habitat of the white pine and some of the other pines.

Dr. Bried was aware that early settlers in the United States had no conserved forest areas even as the westward expansion occurred. In Europe, forests had been replenished as trees were cut, but the New World seemed to have endless woodlands. Early folks used the trees for fuel, buildings, fences, posts, treenware, etc., and actually were fearful of forests because they harbored wild animals and human foes. Therefore, they did not replant and paid little thought for the welfare of future generations. The new superintendent at the Settlement knew that by this time and in this area, conservation of trees and land must be a goal.

Bried decided on a plan to make the denuded land on the Settlement where great ditches were being washed into a beauty spot of trees that might eventually become very valuable commercially. He then called on Prof. McDonald of the Department of Forestry, Iowa State College, for assistance in conducting an experimental reforestation project. McDonald was eager to cooperate and

offered his support. Plans were immediately formulated and in the spring of 1912, the economic and beautification project was begun. There was a seven-acre tract on the Settlement having a southern slope which had suffered erosion and deforestation for several years and had not been cultivated, so the project was begun there.

A stiff yellow clay soil containing a small amount of gravel made the chosen ground difficult to till so the preparation consisted merely of plowing and harrowing only once. The Forestry Department of Iowa State College, Ames, furnished the trees and they were planted under the direction of Prof. McDonald. Plantings were made in rows beginning at the lower part of the field and around the slope with the trees being spaced approximately six feet by six feet. Planting around the slope and by the contour of the land was done to prevent excessive erosion when it was later cultivated.

The ditches were the primary reason for the project on this plot since they indicated that reclaiming was necessary and erosion had to be stopped. Cottonwood trees were planted across the largest ditch, very close together and at points about a rod apart. At the deepest point, posts were placed across the ditch and branches laid there in order that the washing silt would be deposited and form ground for grass to take root.

Most of the trees in this acreage were pine: white pine, red pine, Norway pine and Scotch pine. Black locust trees were planted on about an acre and a few black-walnut trees were planted at the base of the field. Each succeeding year a few additional trees were planted and, where necessary, trees were replanted. Not all grew. Osage orange and mulberry failed. Perhaps it was the cli-

Return The Favor's volunteers share their recipes

STAR COOKING...

MARILYN CHIZEK

Cheese Ball

2 (8-oz.) pkg. cream cheese
8 oz. shredded sharp cheddar cheese
1 T. onion, chopped fine
1 T. pimento, optional
1 small jar dried beef, cut with scissors
2 sticks butter
1 lb. Velveeta cheese
Mix all ingredients together. Can be rolled in crushed crackers or bacon bits if desired. Yield: 2 large or 4 small cheese balls. Note* These cheeseballs freeze well.

Caramel Puffcorn

1 (10-oz.) bag puffcorn
1/2 lb. butter, NOT margarine
1 C. brown sugar
1/2 C. light corn syrup
1 tsp. baking soda
Combine butter, brown sugar and light corn syrup in a 2-qt. saucepan. Bring to boil

and cook 2 minutes, stirring constantly. Add baking soda (mixture will foam up). Place puffcorn in large roaster and pour caramel sauce over puffcorn; stir to mix. Bake at 250 degrees for 45 minutes, stirring every 10 minutes. Remove from oven and place on wax paper to cool. Break pieces apart as cooling. Let cool completely and store in container with tight lid.

Quiche Lorraine

1/2 lb. bacon
1 1/2 C. heavy cream
3 eggs
Salt to taste
Pepper to taste
Dash of nutmeg
3/4 C. shredded Swiss cheese
Unbaked pie shell
Cook bacon crisp and crumble; place in pie shell. Mix cream, eggs, seasonings and cheese; pour mixture over bacon. Bake at 375 degrees for 35-45 minutes or until knife inserted comes clean.

Frozen Cherry Salad

1 can cherry pie filling
1 can Eagle brand sweetened condensed milk
(15-oz.) can crushed pineapple, very well drained



1 (12-oz.) carton whipping topping
2 C. miniature marshmallows
1/2 C. chopped nuts
Fold ingredients together. Place in 9"x13" pan. Chill can be frozen and taken out few minutes before serving. We hope you have fun Star Cooking and eating! If you have a recipe you would like to share with our readers, please submit it to Marilyn Chizek, in care of the Dysart Reporter, Northern Sun-Print, Reinbeck Courier, Tama News-Herald, or Traer Star-Clipper. We look forward to hearing from you.

mate, weather conditions or even poor seed stock which caused the failure of some trees.

Pine trees were the most effective. They were free of disease and were not attacked by the borer which infested the black locust trees and destroyed many of them. In the spring of 1927, about 3,000 soft maple seedlings were planted on waste land in the Settlement and in 1928, about the same number of black walnut seedlings were planted on the bottom along the old channel of the Iowa river. By 1928, the project covered approximately 25 acres which had accumulated following the first seven in 1921. Soil and trees were being conserved as long as 70 years ago. — Reprinted from *The Tama News-Herald* Aug. 22, 1991.

TAMA COUNTY MAGISTRATE COURT

These cases appeared before Magistrate Ann Kuhler in the Tama County Magistrate Court Dec. 12.

Erick Ignacio, 21, and **Lazaro Castillo**, 41, both of Waterloo, each pleaded guilty to the charges of public intoxication and interference with official acts.

The charges were filed Feb. 11 at 2 a.m., at Leno's in Tama by Tama Police Officer Joe Quandt.

Each defendant was fined \$300 with \$96 surcharge, plus \$60 court costs.

Darlyn Rae Banvels-Jefferson, 46, and **William Wayne Jefferson**, 42, both of Montour, each pleaded guilty to the charges of public intoxication and interference with official acts.

The charges were filed Dec. 10 at 8:55 p.m., at High Street in Toledo by Toledo Police Chief Jeff Harsh.

Each defendant was fined \$300 with \$96 surcharge, plus \$60 court costs.

Asencion Ignacio-Castillo, 19, Waterloo, pleaded guilty to the charges of public intoxication and disorderly conduct.

The charges were filed Dec. 11 at 2 a.m., in Tama County by Tama Police Officer Joe Quandt.

Ignacio-Castillo was fined \$100 with \$32 surcharge, plus \$60 court costs.

These cases appeared before Magistrate Chad Frese in the Tama County Magistrate Court Dec. 12-14.

Ashley Doran, 18, Toledo, pleaded guilty to the charge of expired plates.

The charge was filed Nov. 22 at 6:19 p.m., at W. Ross and Main streets in Toledo by Toledo Police Chief Jeff Harsh.

Doran was fined \$30 with \$9.60 surcharge, plus \$30 court costs.

Jacob Harlan Nerness, 21, Tama, pleaded guilty to the charge driving while license revoked.

The charge was filed Nov. 15 at 10:33 p.m., at Highway 63 by Hardee's in Toledo by Toledo Police Officer William Heber.

Nerness was fined \$250 with \$80 surcharge, plus \$148.40 court costs and fees.

These cases appeared before Magistrate Chad Frese in the Tama County Magistrate Court Dec. 16.

Blake Lora Pearson, 32, Clutier, pleaded guilty to the charge of fifth degree theft.

The charge was fined on or about April and October, 2005, at Traer by Tama County Deputy Chad Hansen.

Pearson was fined \$50 with \$16 surcharge, plus \$30 court costs.

costs and \$60 subpoena fees. The defendant is to pay restitution (\$75) to the victim (Gas N Grub).

Ruthann Morrison, 59, Alburnet, pleaded guilty to the charge of fifth degree theft.

The charge was filed on or about July 16 at Toledo by Toledo Police Chief Jeff Harsh.

Morrison was fined \$50 with \$16 surcharge, plus \$30 court costs. She is to pay restitution (\$35.19) to the victim (Fareway of Toledo).

Charles F. Werner, 28, Traer, pleaded guilty to the charge of fifth degree theft.

The charge was filed on or about May 26 and May 28 at Traer by Tama County Deputy Chad Hansen.

Werner was fined \$50 with \$15 surcharge and \$125 Law Enforcement Initiative surcharge, plus \$17 court costs. He is to pay restitution (\$194.57) to the victim (SuperValu).

Chauncey Lee Shuckahosee, 20, Tama, pleaded guilty to the charges of interference with official acts and possession of alcohol under legal age.

The charges were filed Nov. 21 at 4 a.m., at Arrowhead Mobile Park in Toledo by Toledo Police Officer Michael Dickinson.

Shuckahosee was fined \$450 with \$144 surcharge, plus \$60 court costs.

Tyrell Levi Roberts, 21, Tama, pleaded guilty to the charges of interference with official acts and public intoxication.

The charges were filed Nov. 26 at 4 a.m., at Arrowhead Mobile Park in Toledo by Toledo Police Officer Michael Dickinson.

Roberts was fined \$300 with \$96 surcharge, plus \$60 court costs.

Whitney Marie Hauser, 18, Toledo, pleaded guilty to the charge of possession of alcohol under legal age.

The charge was filed Nov. 26 at 11:16 p.m., at E Avenue and 360th Street in Montour by Tama County Deputy Trevor Killian.

Hauser was fined \$200 with \$64 surcharge and \$5 Sheriff's fee, plus \$30 court costs.

Michael Robert Vest, 23, Tama, pleaded guilty to the charge of striking an unattended vehicle.

The charge was filed Dec. 11 at 3 p.m., at the 700 block of Highway 63 in Tama by Tama Police Chief Dan Wilkens.

Vest was fined \$50 with \$16 surcharge, plus \$30 court costs.

These cases appeared before Magistrate Chad Frese in the Tama County Magistrate Court Dec. 19-21.

Ashley Marie Thompson, 18, Tama, pleaded guilty to the charge of possession of alcohol under legal age and no valid driver's license.

The charges were filed Nov. 17 at 9:30 a.m., at the 1500 block of Meskwaki Road in Tama County by Tama County Deputy Michea Nangle.

Thompson was fined \$300 with \$96 surcharge and \$5 Sheriff's fee, plus \$60 court costs.

Nicholas Allen McFatrige, 18, Toledo, pleaded guilty to the charge of possession of alcohol under legal age.

The charge was filed Nov. 26 at 4 a.m., at Toledo by Toledo Police Officer Michael Dickinson.

McFatrige was fined \$200 with \$64 surcharge, plus \$30 court costs.

Tammy Jane Seltrecht, 43, Des Moines, pleaded guilty to the charge of driving while license suspended.

The charge was filed Dec. 18 at 12:50 a.m., at Highway 30 and I Avenue in Tama County by Tama Police Officer Joe Quandt.

Seltrecht was fined \$250 with \$80 surcharge, plus \$30 court costs.

These cases appeared before Magistrate Ann Kuhler in the Tama County Magistrate Court Dec. 23.

Verlee Suzanne Dwyer, 34, Toledo, pleaded guilty to the charge of no valid driver's license.

The charge was filed Dec. 9 at 3:55 p.m., at Church and Vine streets in Toledo by Toledo Officer Dan Johnson.

Dwyer was fined \$100 with \$32 surcharge, plus \$30 court costs.

Aaron Thomas Yuska, 21, Toledo, pleaded guilty to two counts of parking violation.

The charges were filed Nov. 24 at 3:10 a.m. and Nov. 25 at 4:07 a.m., at No Broadway in Toledo by Toledo Police Officer William Heber.

Yuska was fined \$10 with applicable surcharge, plus \$16 court costs.

Marcus Montize Amerison, 32, Vinton, pleaded guilty to the charge of unsafe passing.

The charge was filed at S. Broadway and Highway 30 in Toledo by Tama Police Officer Jeffrey Fillon.

Amerison was fined \$35 with \$11.20 surcharge, plus \$30 court costs and \$88 subpoena fees.

FINES

Isaias Flores, Tama, 34-25, \$56.40.

Richard Stevenson, Toledo, seatbelt, \$63.

Dharnesh Makwana, Cedar Rapids, 60-55, \$43.20.

Kurt Munn, Cedar Falls, 55-45, \$56.40.

Avis Bear, Toledo, seatbelt, \$63.

Norman Rutledge, West Des Moines, failure to obey yield sign, \$76.20, and seatbelt, \$63.

Greg Nelson, Reinbeck, seatbelt, \$63.

Sandra Moore, Toledo, 55-45, \$56.40.

Julie Spencer, Des Moines, 44-35, \$56.40.

Sounthone Lovanh, Cedar Rapids, 70-55, \$69.60.

Levi Mathes, Toledo, 75-55, \$82.80.

Antonio Beltran-Meza, Tama, no valid driver's license, \$162.

Samson Keahna, Tama, no valid driver's license, \$162.

Benjamin Ahearn, Ames, 70-55, \$69.60.

Richard Keller, Tama, seatbelt, \$63.

Tonchee Lonewolf, Tama, expired registration, \$69.60.

Magdeleno Tavizon, Tama, seatbelt, \$63.

Jack Knight, Lumberton, Miss., no proof of interstate authority evidence, \$360, and proof of annual inspection expired, \$63.

Kacie Mathern, Garwin, unsafe turn or fail to give sig-

nal, \$81.20.

Kira DeSotel, Belle Plaine, passing contrary to highway marking, \$76.20.

Brian Watson, Des Moines, 45-35, \$56.40.

John Powers, Marion, 55-45, \$56.40.

Ranae Sharp, Dysart, 51-35, \$82.80.

Adam Mattingly, Toledo, no fur harvester's license, \$96.

Ernesto Castanon, Toledo, no valid driver's license, \$162.

Delfino Valle-Radilla, Tama, 2 charges of no valid driver's license, \$162 each.

Erendiva Aldama, Montour, failure to obey stop sign, \$76.20.

Darold Ferneau, Tama, parking violation, \$13.

Georgiana Keahna, Tama, 45-35, \$56.40.

Timothy Popelka, Clutier, seatbelt, \$68.

Darren Schlichting, Traer, seatbelt, \$68.

Cara Gethmann, Gladbrook, 65-55, \$61.40.

William Tonche, Des Moines, 52-35, \$82.80.

Ina Roberts, Tama, 74-55, \$87.80.

Adam Uterback, Tama, 31-25, \$56.40.

Deneen Ahumada, Toledo, parking violation, \$13.

Jacob Martin, Toledo, careless driving, \$68.

Gary Hulme, Traer, seatbelt, \$63.

Kenneth Madison, Marshall-

town, failure to obey stop sign, \$81.20.

Karrie Lundail, Waterloo, failure to maintain control, \$76.20.

Jack E. Walker, Tama, seatbelt, \$63.

Tina Cox, Tama, 30-25, \$43.20.

James Rucker, Gary, Ind., expired RS-3 form, \$360.

Renee Burnes, Tama, 65-55, \$56.40.

Joseph Aragon, Marshalltown, 65-55, \$56.40.

Leland Brown, Marshalltown, 60-55, \$43.20.

Penny Plantz, Melbourne, 64-55, \$56.40.

Amy Brandt, Marshalltown, 64-55, \$56.40.

Colleen Darrah, Toledo, parking violation, \$13.

Roberto Cervantes-Hernandez, Montezuma, 65-55, \$56.40.

Kevin Amesquita, Sterling, Ill., seatbelt, \$63.

Josh Murphy, Toledo, parking violation, \$13.

Missy Haughey, Tama, parking violation, \$13.

Rodney Timm, Tama, seatbelt, \$63.

Toby Klauenberg, Ogden, 65-55, \$56.40.

Luis Perez, Toledo, 71-55, \$87.80.

Tammy Garcia, Toledo, seatbelt, \$63.

Christopher Laughlin, Toledo, expired driver's license, \$69.60.

Wildlife Award, from page 3B

The food plots have 3 types of sorghum. The heads droop under snow to provide winter cover for pheasants. Deer do not eat the sorghum. Bay pheasants need strictly insects to eat their first six weeks. The brome/clover strips provide greener spring vegetation to

attract insects for the baby pheasants.

Bob deer hunts and is an avid pheasant hunter. He has kept records of rooster sightings since his youth. There has been a marked increase (double) in sightings; since beginning nesting habitat emphasis, even after

the winter of 2002-2003 that had so much ice. Numbers were down last year after the 7" rains in the northern part of the county.

Speirs is an insurance agent for American Family Insurance Company. He is a member of Kiwanis and Pheasants Forever.