



IOWA LAKES CORRIDOR
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BUENA VISTA, CLAY, DICKINSON & EMMET COUNTIES

Junior Achievement continues in the Corridor
Clay Central Everly, Newell-Fonda and Johnson Elementary

SPENCER – Last school year, the Corridor helped two schools introduce the Junior Achievement Program into their classrooms; Clay Central Everly's elementary and Newell Fonda's kindergarten implemented the programming. JA is an organization dedicated to teaching students about entrepreneurship through hands-on programs. What began in 1919 as an after school program for high school students has grown to include middle and elementary school students, as well as programs that are incorporated into school curriculum. JA now reaches 9.7 million students worldwide each year; over 50 million have been involved in JA since its inception.

The Corridor sponsors JA to keep with the objective of developing the next generation of successful entrepreneurs. The Corridor is happy to announce that Clay Central Everly and Newell Fonda are both continuing the JA program this year, and Spencer's Johnson Elementary's second and fourth grades are incorporating the program.

"The Corridor is sponsoring Junior Achievement programming in the region to help us achieve two primary objectives: to develop the next generation of successful entrepreneurs and leaders by encouraging youth to pursue the creation of new ventures and apply entrepreneurship concepts in their career endeavors, and to help existing employers in the region in the recruitment and retention of workforce," said Kathy Evert, president and CEO of the Iowa Lakes Corridor. "JA is a nationally-recognized and supported program. We're especially grateful for the elementary teachers and the volunteers who are helping with this program in the area."

The Junior Achievement programs teach concepts such as consumer, cost, employment, incentives, income, specialization and profit. They also teach skills such as coin recognition, decision making, problem solving, teamwork, brainstorming, applying information and conducting research.

Volunteers are a major part of JA's success. Each lesson is lead by a volunteer from the business community who shares their experiences in business with the students. Volunteers will go through a training program this month, led by Rebecca Meyer, executive director of Siouxland of JA. Having volunteers from the business community not only helps the students learn about entrepreneurship, but also builds relationships between the school and local companies.

Volunteers this year are Carolyn Batchelet, Donalle Rodas, Theresa Reardon, John Beneke, Julie Weaver, Laura Berberich, Dave Rayner, Shaun Arneson, Bob Goeken, Chad McCarty, Karla Saboe and Linda Kunzman.

If anyone is interested in being a Junior Achievement volunteer, contact Holly at the Corridor office at 712-264-3474 or at hpearson@lakescorridor.com.

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The Iowa Lakes Corridor Development Corporation is the regional economic development agency for Buena Vista, Clay, Dickinson and Emmet counties. Its mission is to foster, encourage, aid, promote or otherwise assist in the economic growth and development of the region. For more information about the Iowa Lakes Corridor Development Corporation, call 712-264-3474 or visit www.lakescorridor.com.