

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Iowa County Entrepreneur Club meeting to focus on growing businesses and creating jobs in local foods and regional food processing.**

Dodgeville, WI –

Start or grow your own business around the growing possibilities of local foods and regional food processing!

Local foods and regional food enterprises are blooming everywhere. This is becoming a great way to start or grow businesses in Southwest Wisconsin.

Join us at our next Entrepreneur Club meeting Wed., Feb. 24 in Dodgeville, WI. This meeting will specifically focus on the strong possibilities for food and agricultural entrepreneurship in our region, with four featured speakers:

Maria Davis from the REAP Food Group (Research, Education, Action, and Policy) will discuss 'Buy Fresh Buy Local Southwest Wisconsin' and the demand for local foods.

Lois Federman from Something Special From Wisconsin will discuss the possibilities for working with farmers markets, produce auctions, and Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) programs.

Mark Olson from Renaissance Farm will discuss plans for the Individual Quick Frozen (IQF) vegetable processing and freezing facility planned for Highland. This section is meant to give regional growers as much information as is available so they can plan future farm activities with this facility in mind.

Rick Terrien from Iowa County Area Economic Development will discuss business support available for area growers and farm-based entrepreneurs. Rick will also discuss business startup and expansion possibilities at the new community-access Wisconsin Innovation Kitchen, a state-certified food processing facility available to growers and food entrepreneurs, operated by the Hodan Center in Mineral Point.

Grow your own business around the growing possibilities of local foods and regional food processing!

Please join us for a great evening of information sharing at our next Iowa County Entrepreneur Club meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 24. There will be a social hour beginning at 5:30 and the meeting will begin at 6 PM. The location is at the Stonefield Apartments, 407 E. Madison St., Dodgeville WI. The event is free to the public. Bring a friend!

Download more information, agendas, location maps and much more at <http://www.iowacountyedc.org.5100b.html>

Networking among attendees will be encouraged in the evening's program. "Our goal is to grow the network of entrepreneurs and those that support them in the Iowa County area" said Rick Terrien, Executive Director of ICAEDC.

The Iowa County Area Entrepreneurs Club is an informational forum where entrepreneurs, inventors, existing businesses, new businesses and people thinking about starting their own businesses can come together to encourage each other and share challenges and encouragement. The group meets on a monthly basis, usually the fourth Wednesday of the month. More information about the group is available on the ICAEDC website at [www.iowacountyedc.org/5100b.html](http://www.iowacountyedc.org/5100b.html) or by emailing [info@iowacountyedc.org](mailto:info@iowacountyedc.org) or calling Rick Terrien at 608 930 2000.

Download a meeting flyer for this meeting focusing on growing vegetables for the proposed Highland processing and freezing facility:  
[http://www.iowacountyedc.org/imagesb/Meeting\\_Flyer\\_2\\_24\\_10.pdf](http://www.iowacountyedc.org/imagesb/Meeting_Flyer_2_24_10.pdf)

***Iowa County, Wisconsin. Come grow with us.***