



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Karen Triplett Receives November Vilsack-Wallace Award from USDA Rural Development

Triplett Recognized for Outstanding Efforts Assisting Rural Iowans with Agency's Programs

DES MOINES, Iowa – November 4, 2009 – Bill Menner, USDA Rural Development State Director in Iowa, today announced that Karen Triplett is receiving the November Vilsack-Wallace Award.

The Vilsack-Wallace Award is given out each month to a USDA Rural Development employee in Iowa who goes above and beyond their normal work duties to assist rural Iowans.

Triplett, the Business/Community Programs Technician in the agency's Storm Lake office, is being recognized for graciously assisting other team members when the office was short staffed this year.

Throughout the year Triplett helped with duties that would normally be covered by three staff members. Thanks to her willingness to help in other program areas the office was able to have a successful year and even helped a record number of families purchase home loans.

“Karen exemplifies the true spirit of team work, cooperation, work ethic and responsibility,” Menner said. “Her extraordinary work this year fits perfectly the spirit and purpose of this award.”

The Vilsack-Wallace Award is named for the two most recent Iowans to serve as US Agriculture Secretary. Tom Vilsack is well known to you all, having served as our governor from 1999 to 2007. Henry A. Wallace was first Ag Secretary and later Vice President under FDR. He also perfected the first corn hybrid and founded Pioneer Hy-Brid. Wallace even ran for president in 1948.

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USDA Rural Development is an equal opportunity lender with a variety of direct and guaranteed rural credit programs involving single and multi-family housing, community facilities, water and sewer development and business and cooperative programs.

Further information on programs available through USDA Rural Development is available by calling (712) 732-1851, visiting the Storm Lake office or at www.rurdev.usda.gov/ia.

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