Food tax credit waiting for takers

A food donation tax incentive gets off to a slow start with local farmers.

By ALLEKSANDRA VUJOVIC
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A new tax credit is creating an incentive for farmers to get more locally grown produce on food pantry shelves. But one Iowa City food pantry has only seen farmers take advantage of the program so far.

The Farm to Food Donations Credit Program allows farmers who donate self-produced food to food banks and food pantries to qualify for credit on state taxes. The program was approved by the Iowa Legislature in 2013 and will be effective beginning January 2015.

The program will be effective for tax years starting next year, which means this past year’s donations can be claimed in January.

Kate Edwards of Wild Woods Farm in Solon said she is looking into the program for next year, but she already donates excess produce to food pantries once or twice a week without a tax credit incentive.

"The tax credit is a nice perk from the government, saying that 'we appreciate what you’re doing, but there is nothing to do with why I do this food,'" Edwards said.

She said she thinks it will probably take time to get the word out and get this new program worked into the system.

The tax credit is equal to 15 percent of the value of the produce donated within the tax year, or $1,500, whichever is less. Farmers can carry over unused credits for up to five years.

"We operate on a five-year replacement cycle for the prices," he said. "We don’t normally raise them, though." (The Daily Iowan/Mikaela Parrick)

Containers full of produce donated by Iowa farmers wait to be cleaned and distributed at the Crisis Center on Monday. The Farm to Food Donations Credit Program allows farmers who donate self-produced food to qualify for credit on state taxes. (The Daily Iowan/Mikaela Parrick)

"I don’t really understand how farmers take advantage of this," said Edwards. "The credit incentive is a nice idea, but it has probably taken time to get the word out and get this new program worked into the system."
employees at the fee issue, but they're trying to do it, and we're not happy with it, and I don't think that that's fair. And I think that that's the main concern from the students' perspective.

The City Councilor Susan Keller said she was with the community gardens and said that they were doing wonderful work, but she also had concerns about the amount of land that was being used for community gardens, as there was only a small amount of land available for community gardens in the city. She also mentioned that the city was looking into ways to encourage farming in the city, which could help to reduce the amount of food that was being wasted.

Benson Witry, the CEO of the Iowa City Community Garden, said that the city was doing a good job of encouraging farming in the city, but that there was still a lot of work to be done. He said that the city was looking into ways to encourage more farmers to come to the city, and that the city was also looking into ways to encourage more community gardens to be established in the city.

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Four competitors pitched their ideas to city officials on Monday in hopes their project will be picked for the Linn/Court redevelopment.

The Iowa City City Council heard from CA Ventures, HUB at Iowa City, CG Hanson’s Linn Court Lofts, and Sherman Associates at a special work session. The councilors will select a developer at a work session on Dec. 2.

“Overall, I thought there were some surprises,” Councilor Jerry DeKonte said. “My idea was looking at something a little different for the area.”

Dickens said the biggest issue in making a decision is going to be deciding the type of building the city wants to put there, one aimed at either student housing, resident housing, or senior housing.

“It’s going to be a tougher decision than I expected,” Dickens said.

The redevelopment is for the site that was previously the St. Patrick’s Parish Hall; it is held by the city. The plan for the spot is a mixed-use building, according to the Riverfront Crossings District’s master plan.

Core Campus’ HUB at Iowa City

The company has developed numerous buildings of similar stature in major university towns, which Tom Harrington, director of acquisitions for Core Campus, referred to as a strength.

The group focused on student housing during its presentation; its total project estimates at $93 million.

“We believe Core Campus is uniquely qualified to complete this project,” Harrington said.

CA Ventures’ RISE at Riverfront Crossing

CA Ventures, the other student-focused project, would feature one thing unique to all of the proposals — a grocery store. The company said it has been in discussion with a previous partner in Eugene, Oregon, as well as New Pioneer Co-Op.

One city councilor was impressed with the presentation CA Ventures gave. “I was happy to see that CA Ventures provided a lot more detail about its architectural design,” Councilor Jim Throgmorton said.

The project includes two buildings: one residential, and one residential that includes both apartments and 150 beds for students. The project will be 200,000 square feet of office space.

Charles Graves, the president of CG Hanson, said the project has the potential to add a Target Express as a ground-level retail option and a potential to expand up to 300 residential units.

“CG Hanson is the only company that is principal-ly located in Iowa City,” Graves said. “We think this is critical to anchor the Riverfront Crossing District.”

CG Hanson’s presentation focused on providing green space and seniors housing because of increased need in Johnson County, and providing 20 percent of units as affordable housing, Graves said.

Sherman Associates

Sherman Associates’ owner George Sherman said the biggest strength for its building is that it isn’t student-focused.

“This question is whether the city wants to make a statement in this neighborhood,” he said.

Sherman Associates has previously developed in Iowa City, most recently with the Vine Lofts.

Blindly, these are the realities of the Core Campus’ HUB at Iowa City proposal. It is one of the four proposals for the Linn/Court redevelopment.

In its proposal includes 81 units of residential, 124 units of a Marriot Courtyard Hotel, 23,000 square feet of commercial space with a total cost of $67 million.

He said this proposal is more focused on keeping residents for two to 10 years and would potentially ask for $8 million to $10 million in tax-increment financing.

City Council ponders Linn/Court proposals

By NICK MOFFITT

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Winter take all

T he precarious situation in Ukraine seems to be be in a holding pattern. However, the momentous blanching of Russia's funding has led to Ukraine's second-largest party, the U.S. government's response to this situation has been more symbolic than substantial. The U.S. stance is clear: it will not tolerate any further aggression from Russia. Meanwhile, the European Union's sanctions against Russia have had limited effect so far. The situation in Ukraine remains tense, and the future is uncertain. The U.S. and European Union must continue to work together to de-escalate the situation and find a peaceful resolution.

Aftershocks from Ferguson

No easy solutions in NASA

The European Space Agency has recommended a few key changes to its programs. First, it should better align its budget with the needs of the scientific community. Second, it should increase the amount of data it collects and makes available to the public. Third, it should improve its communication strategies to better engage the public. Fourth, it should focus on long-term projects to ensure sustained funding. These recommendations address some of the challenges facing NASA and could help it to become a more effective and efficient organization.

The Trump administration has proposed a budget that would reduce NASA's funding by about 17%. This proposal would have significant implications for the agency's ability to undertake major projects. However, NASA's track record of delivering successful missions suggests that it can still deliver value for the money spent. The agency's focus on human spaceflight and Earth observation is particularly important in light of climate change. NASA's role in these areas is critical for understanding and addressing these challenges.
Lolasi led Iowa with a 4:20.62 lead with 14.30 remaining.

With 9.40 remaining, Iowa's second-place finisher, Austin McCaffrey, also made a move, and with 4.20 remaining, Iowa's third-place finisher, Nick Christie, also made a move. This move ended up with Iowa holding a 3.28 lead with 1.24 remaining.

Throughout the race, Iowa's runners continued to move forward, with the first-place finisher, Austin McCaffrey, leading by a comfortable margin. However, with 1.24 remaining, Iowa's second-place finisher, Nick Christie, made a surge, closing the gap to 2.24.

In the final stretch, Iowa's runners continued to push hard, with the first-place finisher, Austin McCaffrey, maintaining his lead. The race ended with Iowa holding a 3.28 lead, with Austin McCaffrey winning the race in a time of 14:24.30.

In conclusion, the race was a strong performance by Iowa's runners, with Austin McCaffrey leading from start to finish. The race ended with Iowa holding a comfortable lead, showcasing their strength and endurance. The next steps for Iowa's runners are preparation for upcoming races and maintenance of their training regimen. The team is expected to continue striving for excellence and improving their performance.
Aries (March 21-April 19): Avoid getting into an argument. If you don’t have the answer or you can’t bring yourself to make a decision, remove yourself from the situation and re-evaluate the outcomes you are faced with.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Do what you love the most. Make a point to get out with people you find interesting or who have something to offer. Altering your outlook will encourage professional advancement. Learn something new, or pick up helpful skills.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): You’ve got the right idea, so figure out how to implement the information you have in an orderly but unique manner. Learn something new, or pick up helpful skills.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Keep a cool head and a diplomatic approach. What you do at work will have a bigger effect on your future business, regardless of what’s going on around you.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Take a trip, or go out with someone you find interesting or who has something to offer. Make personal changes that will help you to spend money or make a contribution.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Love is on the rise. Expand your creative dreams. Express your feelings, concerns, and plans regarding your work hours slow down your progress.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Focus on your personal life. Love is highlighted, and romance will help improve your concerns. Keep an open mind and a fresh attitude.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Do what you love the most. Make a point to get out with people you find interesting or who have something to offer. Altering your outlook will encourage professional advancement. Learn something new, or pick up helpful skills.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Check out destinations that intrigue you or courses that can help you develop greater insight into an unusual subject. Do what you love the most. Make a point to get out with people you find interesting or who have something to offer.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Keeping your beliefs and concerns a secret will allow you to find out what everyone else thinks before you commit to anything that entails an emotional battle. Keeping your beliefs and concerns a secret will allow you to find out what everyone else thinks before you commit to anything that entails an emotional battle.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your knowledge of what you want, but trying to get it will be difficult. Use reverse psychology to improve your chances of closing a deal or getting someone to agree with your plans. Romance is in the stars. Plan a celebration with someone special.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You have to have your strategy in place and your information accurate. Do what you love the most. Make a point to get out with people you find interesting or who have something to offer. Altering your outlook will encourage professional advancement. Learn something new, or pick up helpful skills.
**Field-hockey trio honored**

Three Iowa field-hockey players earned first team Academic All-American honors for the 2013-14 season. Iowa’s 6-9 Spencer Eliason, midfielder Adam Woodbury and Gabe Olaseni’s big performance helped the offense get back on track.

Following losses, Hawkeyes running backs more than usual following a loss this season.

Iowa has relied on Mark Weisman and the Hawkeye running backs more than usual following a loss this season.

**BEYOND THE GAME**

The information provided in the image is a mix of sports news and features. It includes news about Iowa field-hockey players being honored, football games and performances, basketball games, and other sports events. The text is a mix of natural language and structured elements such as tables and lists. The overall theme is sports news and features, with a focus on Iowa athletics.