



Hamilton County Extension

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Iowa State University Extension in Hamilton County provides relevant programs that support healthy people, healthy environments, healthy communities, and healthy economies. Read about some of the ways ISU Extension meets local needs, improves quality of life, and helps Hamilton County a better place to live.

County Extension Staff

Dr. David N. Brown

County Extension Education Director

Cheryll Entriken

County Youth Coordinator

Yvonne Nilles

Horticulturist/Bookkeeper

Jenna Bergman

Office Assistant

Brett Ahrens

Extension Council Chair

David Brown

County Extension Education Director

Horizons Builds Up Ellsworth

Ellsworth is one of 20 Iowa towns participating in “Horizons: Community Leadership to Reduce Poverty” – a program directed by Iowa State University Extension with funding from the Northwest Area Foundation. Horizons involves a significant number of community residents in examining issues and possibilities, then building optimism and commitment for action that will build a stronger, more prosperous community. Ellsworth Horizon’s groups took action to build



community cohesion and beautify the city. Seventeen youth and eight adults planted flowers in the 20 planters on Main Street. Eight-and-a-half tons of junk, 68 appliances, and 29 tires were hauled away in a “Dump Your Junk” day. A festive community gathering was also held, with over 200 people attending, who enjoyed walking tacos and social time, celebrated the beautification activities, and recognized those who had completed the 9-week LeadershipPlenty® course.

Clover Kids Make Healthy Youth

Clover Kids is a FUN 4-H program for children in kindergarten through third grade. This year, children participated in hands-on activities designed to build a variety of different life skills! They explored science with simple science experiments, strengthened motor skills through a variety of art and craft experiences, had fun learning, played cooperative games, made friends and learned to work together with others in a group setting. Hamilton County had 81 participants this year in six different programs in four school districts.



Staff Serving Hamilton County but based in other counties

***Barb Wollan**, *Family Resource Management*

Kapil Arora, *Ag Engineering*

Cheryl Clark, *Family Life*

Don Broshar, *Communities*

Russell Euken, *Livestock*

Paulelda Gilbert, *Nutrition/Health*

John Holmes, *Agronomy*

LuAnn Johansen, *Youth Development/4-H*

Wiletta Klein, *External Relations*

Kelvin Leibold, *Farm Management*

Derek Thompson, *CIRAS*

**Housed in Hamilton County*



Hamilton County Extension Council

Front Row (l-r): Brett Ahrens, Tim Blomgren, Richard Carlson. Back Row (l-r) Linda Wild, Judi Meyer, Pam Henderson, Gayle Olson. Not pictured: Bob Walker, Sue Westrum.

Every Iowa county has an elected Extension Council that guides local educational programming by partnering with staff. From needs assessment through program implementation and evaluation of outcomes, the council represents the issues and people of the county.

We have identified these local issues as priority topics for current and future programming:

- Youth/Adult Relationships
- Agricultural Economic Development
- Parenting Education
- Community Economic Development
- Safe Environment for Kids
- Growing Iowa's Bioeconomy
- Financial Literacy
- Leadership Development
- Quality Childcare
- New Agricultural Enterprises
- Expanding Markets for Businesses



We connect you to Iowa State University.

We are your local link to make connections for campus enrollment, continuing education, campus visits, campus exhibits, conferences, camps, and sporting events.

Iowa State University Extension: In sync with Hamilton County

Extension Impacts Small Meat Processor

Stanhope Locker in Stanhope, a small meat processor and locker, was able to retain \$900,000 in sales and increase sales by \$75,000 after attending a Labeling 101 short course. This course was made possible by the Center for Industrial Research and Service (CIRAS) partnering with the ISU Meat Processing Laboratory. This course instructed participants on new state regulations and how to properly label their products to be in compliance with these new regulations. Without this knowledge numerous Iowa lockers, including Stanhope, would have been unable to stay in business.

Master Gardeners Help Make Healthy People

The Mid-Iowa Master Gardeners, serving Hamilton Humboldt, Webster and Wright Counties, sponsored a local Plant a Row for the Hungry project. This group donated extra fresh fruits and vegetables they had grown to Upper Des Moines Opportunity for distribution. By making such donations, local Iowa Master Gardeners assisted organizations to stretch scarce resources in serving those in need.



Extension Provides Nutrition Education

Hamilton County Public Health workers are utilizing information from an Extension provided in-service training to reach out to Hamilton County families. Using information they received, they are assisting families in planning healthy meals, using the new food pyramid to make healthy food choices, incorporating food safety practices and tips for feeding children.

River Clean-Up Commemorates Iowa State University's 150 Years

Sixty-five volunteers helped Extension celebrate ISU's 150 years with a community service project that included hauling trash, tires and scrap metal from the Boone River. The Boone River Clean-Up, held on Saturday, August 11th, was sponsored by Hamilton County ISU Extension, the City of Webster City, Hamilton County Conservation, and the Hamilton County ISU Alumni Association. Clean-up participants piloted canoes along a 4.6 mile section of Boone River between Riverside and Briggs Woods parks.



Along the way, volunteers removed 214 tires, 3,160 lbs. of scrap metal and 1,540 lbs. of miscellaneous trash they found in the river's waters and banks. A lunch was served and prepared for all volunteers with local support from Webster City Custom Meats, Hy-Vee, Fareway and Xenia Rural Water.