

# WHAT WE WANT

# #STRONGIOWA

## 2018 IN CALHOUN COUNTY

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach connects the needs of Iowans with Iowa State University research and resources. We are working with the residents of Calhoun County for what we all want: a strong Iowa.

### Calhoun County Extension Council

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:

- Economic Development: Township Trustee Training
- Food and the Environment: Beef Quality Assurance Training
- Health and Wellness: Words on Wellness Newsletter
- K12 Youth Outreach: Clover Kids



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
Extension and Outreach

Celebrating 100 years of  
Extension and Outreach  
in Calhoun County



### Economic Development

Approximately 22 county residents participated in Township Trustee Training on February 22, 2018, in Rockwell City. The program was a collaborative effort between Calhoun County Extension and Outreach and the Calhoun County Auditor's office.

Township trustees and clerks in attendance learned about legislative changes related to township government, and were given a reference manual developed by Iowa State University Extension and Outreach for township officials. Jane Nolan Goeken, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Community Development Specialist, presented the program.

### Extension Council Members

We want communities and farmers to thrive, and families and children to be healthy. And eventually we want to turn the world over to the next generation better than we found it.

**Don Westering**  
Extension Council Chair

**Dan Erickson**  
Council Member

**Kris Nicholson**  
Council Member

**Terry Janssen**  
Regional Director

**James Hepp**  
Council Member

**Cheryl Wuebker**  
Council Member

**Sue Carlson**  
Council Member

**Keaton Hildreth**  
Council Member

**Dawn Clark**  
Council Member

**Darcy Murley**  
Council Member





Those who completed an evaluation at the end of the program agreed that the training provided information and resources that will help them be better trustees and clerks. On a scale of 1 (Very Poor) to 5 (Excellent), the average rating on that measure was 4.7.

## Food and Environment

In response to changes in the cattle industry, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Beef Specialist, Beth Doran, along with the Iowa Beef Industry Council in NW Iowa, the Calhoun County Cattlemen’s Association and Bakker Consulting, offered Beef Quality Assurance training to area producers.

The BQA training covered eight best management practices and educated beef producers about how to produce beef that is safe, nutritious and wholesome. This particular training certified 46 producers from eight NW Iowa counties - proof that these producers are careful in how they raise their cattle and are striving to produce a quality product for the consumer.

## Health and Well-Being

ISU Extension and Outreach Human Sciences Specialists in Nutrition and Wellness author a

monthly newsletter called *Words on Wellness*. The newsletter includes articles on nutrition, food safety, physical activity, and a healthy, low-cost recipe. The newsletter also highlights current nutrition and wellness Extension and Outreach programming.

Calhoun County distributes these newsletters directly to 55 households via email and countless others via webpage and social media each month, reaching hundreds of individuals, families, and older adults who can benefit from wellness education.

The newsletters provide evidence-based information on a variety of interesting topics. Calhoun County is reaching out with this publication to help create a Strong Iowa.

## K-12 Youth Outreach

In January of 2018, the Calhoun County Clover Kids Club was started with 52 members in Kindergarten through 3rd grade. Tiffany Blair, Calhoun County Youth Coordinator, delivered a high-quality educational experience to the children during monthly meetings with the assistance of 10 adult volunteers.

Participants engaged in hands-on STEM activities which allowed them to gain practical experience as well as a better understanding of engineering practices. Each session required youth to use problem solving skills to find solutions to different situations and when asked, youth could explain scientific concepts such as friction and cause and effect.

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## County Extension Staff

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