

BUILDING A #STRONGIOWA

HOWARD COUNTY

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach connects the needs of Iowans with Iowa State research and resources. We listen, learn, and work with the people of Howard County for a #STRONGIOWA.

Howard 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
- Food and the Environment
- Health and Well-being
- K12 Youth Outreach

Leading Communities



Malaysian Visitors

Economic Development

Howard County is always ready to listen and work for economic growth. 2019 brought a workshop for our Township Trustees to enhance their work in the township government. County Staff is ever present at Economic Development Board meetings in the county and working for the betterment of all communities. The Fall 2019 brought a new venture to Howard County with a Leading Communities Class of 22. This leadership class are from all parts of the county, learning and stepping into roles of leadership for the future of Howard County. It is exciting to see the enthusiasm and vision this group has for leadership in Howard County.

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.



Doug Nath
Extension Council Chair

Kraig Tweed
Regional Director

Elaine Weyers
Council Member

Jessica Reis
Council Member

Diane Gardner
Council Member

Sue Heimerdinger
Council Member

Brent Mehmert
Council Member

Allen Johnson
Council Member

Jim Zajicek
Council Member

Gary Ferrie, not pictured
Council Member

IN 2019



FARM SAFETY

Health and Well-Being

A Parkinson Awareness series of workshops was held with surprising participation and learning about this disease. Local nursing home staff as well as families with members diagnosed with this disease enjoyed the learning series. Child Care is an important factor of the working environment in Howard County as we are consistent in offering Child Care trainings for local providers each year in the Spring and Fall enabling child care providers the opportunity to fulfill their required continuing education requirements.

Food and Environment

Howard County is strong in agricultural production allowing us to work with clients for continuing education in pesticide application, both commercial and private. Education for license continuing education for manure applicators, both commercial and confinement, is an ongoing effort. Annually dairy producers meet for Dairy Days as well as the DHIA (Dairy Herd Improvement Association) efforts in our County. Veterinary Feed Directive trainings, BQA meetings and Pro Ag meetings help keep our farmers updated on new standards. Annual

lease meetings keep tenants and landlords aware of changes in the market. Our local Master Gardeners provide summer and winter webinars for learning and continuing education not only for Master Gardeners, but they share these trainings with the public sector.

K-12 Youth Outreach

With 177 active 4-H Members, staff keeps busy with day camps, Farm Safety, 6th Grade Environmental Day, K-3 Clovers Kids (over 70 members), workshops for visual arts, livestock learning, and pie baking are always fun events. The Howard County Fair is the culmination of the year of 4-H work showcasing the projects and learning that have been nurtured all year long. The Iowa State Fair is the ultimate goal for many 4-H'ers projects.



ISU Extension and Outreach Howard County

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State Fair Project Exhibitors

County Extension Staff

Sue Barnes
Office Manager

Kelli Mohlis
County Youth Coordinator

Penny Hughes
Office Assistant



Parkinson's Workshop



4-H Pie Baking Workshop