



BUILDING A #STRONGIOWA

2019 IN LEE 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 Lee County for a #STRONGIOWA.

Lee 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:

- Community Economic Development
- Ag and Natural Resources
- Health and Well-being
- K12 Youth Outreach



Community Economic Development

Lee County Intern Connect is a program for interns to engage in local networking and build relationships within Lee County to help create a positive experience in with a goal to recruit interns back to the area once they graduate. Lee County Extension partnered with Lee County Economic Development Group, Fort Madison Partners and Keokuk Area Chamber of Commerce to successfully deliver this program to 21 participants.

The **Lee County Leadership Program** is a collaborative effort designed to bring emerging and existing leaders together to guide and foster positive change in Lee County. This year 12 participants interacted with local leaders and learned about Lee County resources during community organized tours and leadership panel discussions.



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.

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<i>Council Member</i> |



Ag and Natural Resources

Beginning Beekeeping Courses were a popular attraction this year in Southeast Iowa. Lee County hosted an 8 hour course 2 times in February and March. All 37 participants reported that they increased their knowledge about basic beekeeping practices and that they would participate in an Advance Beekeeping Course if provided.

This fall 34 participants gathered at a local farm for a **Pasture Walk** to discuss rotational grazing systems for cattle, soil health and cost share assistance. ISU Extension and Outreach partnered with the local Natural Resource Conservation Services Office to host this event.

Health and Well-Being

Food Preservation 101 – This is introductory course for home food preservation. Twenty participants attended this program to learn about safe home food preservation methods including canning, dehydrating and freezing. Attendees received food preservation handouts, saw various food preservation supplies and equipment and more.

“A Journey Through Parkinson’s Disease” is an educational program from Iowa State University Extension and Outreach focused on Parkinson’s Disease, its effects, and possible treatments. Human Sciences Specialists partnered with The Kensington Senior Living Community in Fort Madison to offer the program. Twenty participants attended the three part lunch and learn series which included interactive lessons, discussions, and activities.

Youth Jam Workshop – Eight youth attended the “**Youth Jam Workshop**” in Donnellson. Preserving foods at home is not difficult, but it does require following research-based recipes. Attendees at this youth workshop learned how to make jam and prepare an exhibit for the county fair.

K-12 Youth Outreach

4-H Youth Development empowers youth to reach their full potential through youth-adult partnerships and research-based experiences. Currently, Lee County has 171 active 4-H members grades 4-12, 53 Clover Kid members grades K-3.

Ag Exploration Day: One-hundred and thirty area high school students participated in a new event at the SE Research and Demonstration Farm called Ag Exploration Day on Sept. 5! The goals of this event were to engage students in hands-on learning, get students excited to enter careers in agriculture, teach students skills they can use at home, and provide networking opportunities. Students rotated through 8 stations learning about a variety of topics ranging from livestock and crops to precision agriculture and horticulture. Additionally, students had the opportunity to visit with local community colleges, ISU, and sponsor representatives.

This past year over 39 youth participated in the **Babysitting Clinic** that was held in Fort Madison and Keokuk. The goal of this clinic was to teach kids about responsible baby sitting where they learned developmental stages, first aid, CPR, healthy and safe eating, age-appropriate activities and proper care of a child. Each session was 6 hours.

ISU Extension and Outreach

Lee County

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