



BUILDING A #STRONGIOWA

2019 IN MONTGOMERY 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 Montgomery County for a #STRONGIOWA.

Montgomery 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



Ag and Natural Resources

We started the 2019 year with Ag Coffees, monthly gatherings to learn about topics that affect us in the Ag world. Some of our topics included Farm Succession Planning and soil fertility. As the year progressed, we found ways to be outside. We helped with the rain garden build at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds and participated in Red Oak's National Night Out with a hands-on tractor rollover demonstration.

Education in the most current research regarding the use of pesticides and herbicides is given annually to over 150 individuals through our **Private and Commercial Pesticide Applicator Training**. In addition, we provide **Manure Applicator Training**. All of these certification courses are in place to support the best practices for protecting the environment and farm yields.

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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| Mike Thomas
Extension Council
Chair | Susan Bergren
Council Member | Lori DeKay
Council Member |
| Alan Ladd
Regional Director | Scott Bruce
Council Member | Dylan Dolch
Council Member |
| | Kelli Bucy
Council Member | Karen Klocke
Council Member |
| | Marti Clark-Moffett
Council Member | Shelly Preston
Council Member |





Health and Well-Being

Women, Land, and Legacy provided workshops on stress management, food labeling, potted plants, cover crops, and popular hobbies while also providing a networking opportunity for women and professionals in our area.

Food and Environment

ServSafe™

ServSafe is a certification program for food service managers developed by the National Restaurant Association. Thirteen participated in the 8-hour training. Statewide, 2,434 attended.

Food Preservation 101

Three individuals were introduced to the importance of using recommended food preservation practices. During the two-hour session, participants receive publications, view various canning supplies, and taste home preserved foods.

Economic Development

We are working with multiple community groups to grow Montgomery County. An example is our work with the Family Success Network to promote programs and public policies which strengthen families. We are also working with Live Well Montgomery

County to expand the Community Garden located at Evergreen Cemetery.

K-12 Youth Outreach

Youth programming is an important part of our work in Montgomery County. We strive to provide a variety of educational experiences throughout the year in order to build successful future citizens.

4-H continues to be strong in Montgomery County involving over 133 youth in grades K-12 in year-round community clubs as well as the **Clover Kids** program. Youth are given opportunities to reach their full potential by working and learning in partnership with caring adults. In 2019, a few 4-H highlights included a sewing workshop, a series of Horse Workshops, and Dog Classes as well as Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) for youth raising market animals. All of the 4-H work is exhibited at the Montgomery County Fair, where the project possibilities are endless.

Summer is an excellent time for fun learning. We again provided summer day camp opportunities for over 90 youth. In partnership with Anderson Conservation, we offered four day camps for youth K-6th grades: Reduce, Renew, Recycle and Reuse; Blast from the Past; and Blowing in the Wind. In 2019, 49 youth attended our June summer day camps. A Babysitter Clinic was held in partnership with Montgomery County Memorial Hospital with 20 youth learning babysitting safety and techniques.

ISU Extension and Outreach Montgomery County

400 Bridge Street; Suite #2
Red Oak, IA 51566
712-623-2592



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County Extension Staff

Lori Mitchell
County Program Coordinator

Eva Woods
County Youth Coordinator

Katie Hart
Office Assistant

