Iowa State University Extension “Rising Star Interns” developed an updated master plan to further enhance the beautification of the Worth County Fairgrounds. Pictured left to right are: Donovan Olson, Regional Extension Education Director; Rui Xie, Erin McDonald and Josie Matteson, “Rising Star Interns”; and Dennis Johnson, Worth County Extension Education Specialist.

Mary Clagett, our Worth County Extension Office Manager for the past several years passed away on Friday, June 30th, 2017 after a valiant effort to overcome a severe disease diagnosis she learned about on April 6th, 2016. Mary will be sorrowfully missed by all who knew her. She was a person we have learned to count on and appreciate for her excellent organizational skills, quick smile, sense of humor and willingness to always go the extra mile in serving others. She particularly enjoyed helping our Worth County 4-H members reach their goals and excel at whatever 4-H projects they might become involved in. Our Worth County Extension and 4-H Family is very grateful for all Mary Clagett has done for everyone and we say “Thank You Sincerely”!!

This past year Golden Banner 4-H Club member from Hanlontown, Scott Magnuson was selected to participate in the week long trip to the Nation’s Capitol in Washington D.C. Participants are engaged in studying issues and topics important to 4-H youth from across the United States. They also have the opportunity to meet and interact with their U.S. Congress-man. Pictured with Scott is Iowa Unit-ed States Senator, Charles Grassley.

The Worth County Fair is a highlight of most every 4-H’er—and while bringing projects to the county fair is great, it’s always the goal of a great 4-H’er to earn a trip to the Iowa State Fair. Pictured here are many of the kids who represented Worth County at the Iowa State Fair this past summer. In all, 40 projects, 6 Educational Presentations, 4 Working Exhibits, and 3 Share the Fun Acts represented Worth County at the Iowa State Fair! Congratulations to everyone who participated!
Worth County

Northwood native and former Worth County 4-H Member, Ivan Fritz was the featured speaker at a Women Land and Legacy meeting held in November. Evan, who is the Marketing Coordinator at WCTA spoke about “Identity Theft and Fraud”. He shared information about how to avoid scams by telemarketers and unsolicited communication on the telephone and the Internet.

The Worth County Extension Service and Fairboard celebrated their new building at the Worth County Fairgrounds with an open house on April 23rd with more than 200 people in attendance. Golden Banner 4-H members left to right; Scott Magnuson, Kimberly Klooster and Hannah Hill kicked off the event by singing the National Anthem while Dennis Johnson, Worth County Extension Education Specialist, Ken Abrams, President of WCD, and Dean Mueller, President of the Worth County Beautification Board look on.

Worth County 4-H held their annual 4-H Share N’ The Fun on Sunday, April 9th. A large number 4-H members competed for a chance to perform on stage at the Iowa State Fair.

The Worth County 4-H competed in the 2017 Iowa State Fair Livestock Judging Contest. The Senior 4-H Judging Team finished in second place overall in the Swine Judging Division, Peyton Pangburn competed for 5th place overall in placing classes and Justine Nelson was named the third place individual overall in the Junior Division. Team members pictured left to right are; Peyton Pangburn, Lauren Petznick, Maegan Petznick, Justine Nelson, Reece Nelson, Taylor Foss and Austin Foss.

Dr. Elynn Taylor, Iowa State University Extension Climatologist was the keynote speaker at the 2017 Worth County Corn and Soybean Clinic. Dr. Taylor spoke about the impact various weather patterns would have on potential corn and soybean yields during the growing season and how that might have an effect on crop futures prices.

Worth County 4-H and 2017 Worth County Fair Queen, Morgan Fritz (pictured on the left) with the reigning 2017 Iowa State Fair Queen Jacqueline Ehrlich was named “Miss Outstanding Leadership” during the Iowa State Fair Queen Coronation Ceremony August 12th. Morgan competed with 102 Queens from across the State of Iowa for the overall top leadership award. Morgan had also been selected earlier this spring as one of six 4-H members to represent Iowa 4-H at the National 4-H Conference in 2018. Worth County 4-H is also tremendously successful in having Worth County 4-H, Paul Olson join Morgan in being one of the six delegates to National 4-H Conference in Washington D.C. this April.

Iowa State University Extension Farm Management Specialist, Kelvin Leibold led a Farm Lease meeting at the new Community Room at the Worth County Extension Office in early August.

Worth County is very fortunate to have a large delegation of extremely dedicated and high quality set of 4-H leaders. The 2017 4-H Club Leaders pictured left to right are: Front: Irene Nelson, Jacki Backhaus, Michelle Hill, Anna Hanson, Susan Klimert, Peter Julsath, (2nd row) Mindy Tenold, Michelle Moretz, Jennifer Patterson, Bobbie Logeman, Kris Woltzien, Rachel Bowman, Mary Buren, Stephanie Hengesteg, Donnie Pangburn, Lynn Tenold, (Back Row) Linda Presholt, Jennifer Klooster, Aaron Woltzien, Eileen Amundson, Dennis Johnson, Eric Foss, Scott Moretz, Darin Kliement, Ron Hengesteg. Not Pictured: Alisa and Kevin Braun, Theressa Eksildsen, Jeff Moretz, Kaitlyn Varner, Kris Tabbert, Todd Harris, Martin Harris, Brett Backhaus, Monica and Tom Meyer, Brooke Hopperly, Avery TenHaken, Tracy Hett, Dean Muller, and Jake Loken.

Worth County Extension teamed up with the local schools to introduce a “Food and Fitness” program. The students are pictured here trying out one of the four Fitness Stations at the Worth County Fairgrounds. This same group is planning a vegetable garden planting at the Fairgrounds in May as well.

Jacki Backhaus, Worth County Auditor and Dennis Johnson, Worth County Extension Education Specialist organized a Township Trustees’ Training. Iowa State University Extension Community Development Field Specialist, Jane Goeken led the workshop.