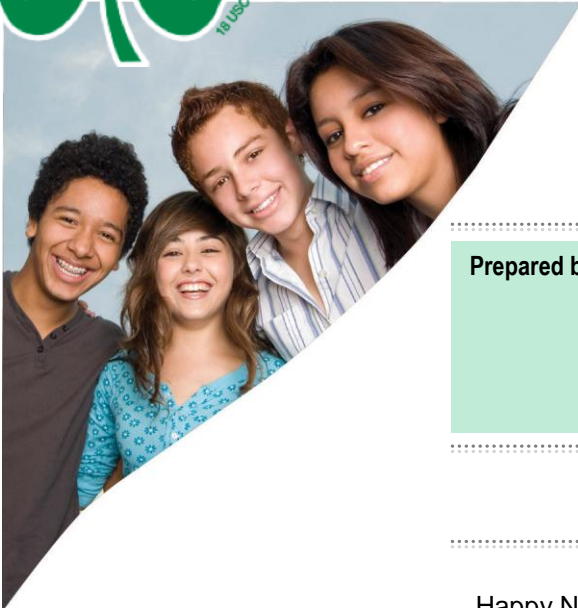




4-H CONNECTION...AN UPDATE FOR 4H FAMILIES



Prepared by:

Dawn Dugan
Ringgold County Extension
County Youth Coordinator/Office Manager
dawnd@iastate.edu
Phone/Fax: 641.464.3333

Taking the Lead

WHAT'S INSIDE:

4H Celebration Planned

Club Challenge

Leader Training

CWF Trip

Club Coupon: 4H Camping Center

Interested in Judging?

Calendar

Additional Notes

Happy National 4H Week! We have much to celebrate in Ringgold County. Last year 138 youth in 4th-12th grades were members of the Ringgold County 4H program. That was up 6 members from the previous year. It is super to be part of a program that continues to grow as many counties have experienced major drops in numbers.

We need your help to keep this upward trend going. Here are some easy steps to keep Ringgold County 4H strong.

- Encourage just one person to join 4H. Talk to them. Talk to their parents and explain the benefits. Encourage them to come to your next club meeting.
- Become a leader within 4H. Take advantage of the many opportunities that are available. Organize a service project; try a new project. Show the entire community how much 4H means to you and to a community.



National 4H Week October 2nd – 8th



4-H
GROWING TOGETHER

101 N. Polk St.; Mount Ayr, IA 5085
www

Iowa State University Extension programs are available



4-H Celebration Planned

This time of the year we like to take time to reminisce the good times we've had in 4H this past year and recognize our 4H members for all of their hard work.

A spruced up 4-H Celebration will be held on Sunday, October 23rd from 4:00 – 6:00 pm at the Ringgold County Fairgrounds. Planned for the evening is: family fun activities, an ice cream sundae bar and our recognition/awards presentation. 4-H members turning in 4H Record Books will receive special awards, 4-H volunteers will be thanked for the time they commit to our 4-H program. We will also be handing out county fair premium checks to those 4-H members that are present.

Club Challenge

The Twin River Tornadoes 4-H Club dares each of our county 4H clubs to participate in their "Food Drive" challenge. They would like to see which club can collect the most non-perishable goods (food and/or personal products: shampoo, soap, toilet paper, etc) to be donated to the Neighborhood Center in Mt. Ayr. The Neighborhood Center will use the goods to help needy families during the holiday season.

Each club is asked to turn in their donations to the Neighborhood Center by November 11th.

The winning club will be treated to a pizza party!

In honor of National 4-H Week: the competition begins...NOW!

REGIONAL/STATE 4-H NEWS

Leader Training: NEW and Experienced Invited

Beginning this fall, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach county and regional staff across Iowa will join together to provide first year 4-H volunteers with a newly designed orientation and training program. The program was created by a team of 4-H volunteers, county youth coordinators, and youth program specialists. The new training system supports county and regional staff as they orient and train staff at the county level. In addition, volunteers will participate in positive youth development training at one of nine locations offered in the fall and spring throughout the state.

The agenda for the training includes:

- Understanding Iowa's 4-H Equation
 - The Needs of Youth
 - The Essential Elements
- Experiential Education
- Outcomes of the 4-H Experience
- Resources to support volunteers
- Volunteers for youth 4th—12th Grade Breakout
 - Youth/Adult Partnerships
 - Club Management
 - Goal setting in clubs and projects
 - Why you are important!

Dates and locations closest to us:

Nov. 12	Creston	9:30 - 3:30
Feb. 11	Ankeny	9:30 - 3:30 (At State Volunteer Retreat)
March 17	Atlantic	9:30 - 3:30

Registrations now open at:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/Volunteers/newvolregistration.htm>

Watch for additional resources for new volunteers at

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/Volunteers/> under **Trainings** in the bottom right box!

MISSION STATEMENT

4-H EMPOWERS YOUTH TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL WORKING AND LEARNING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CARING ADULTS



4H Opportunity: CWF Trip

Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) is a nine-day trip for 4-H youth in grades 10, 11 and 12. The trip provides a setting to experience leadership and citizenship in a whole different way at the National 4-H Center. Youth who have participated in previous trips have returned to report that it has been the single most educational highlight of their 4-H career.

Participants can select either June 8 – 16 or June 15 – 23 to attend the trip. 4-H'ers and adult chaperone will travel by chartered bus to Washington D.C. Some highlights of the trip are: Lincoln's Springfield Home, Gettysburg Battlefield, Capitol Hill, Smithsonian Museums, Mount Vernon and Kennedy Center. Beside tours and workshop you'll have time for socializing and meeting new friends.

Cost of the trip is \$1,370. This includes lodging, transportation, tour site admissions, and most meals. Registration and a \$350.00 deposit will be required to secure a spot. Registration opens October 1, 2011 and closes December 15, 2011.

To learn more about the trip and get registration information visit: www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/cwf.

Experience the 4H Camping Center as a 4H Club

Looking for something fun to do with your 4-H Club this school year? Why not travel to the Iowa 4-H Center for a day or even for an overnight stay. The Iowa 4-H Center offers every 4-H Club a FREE day use rental and discounted fees for overnight stays. [Click here to check out the club coupon](#) that is available from August 15 to May 15 each year. Programming is available on request.

Interested in Becoming a 4-H Judge?

A multi-regional training will be held for adults interested in becoming a conference judge at county fairs. This training will be delivered by Iowa State University Extension Youth Program Specialists, current 4-H Judges and youth.

Training will be held Saturday, November 19th from 9 a.m. to Noon at the Jefferson Co. Fairgrounds-Activity Building, 2606 W. Burlington Ave., in Fairfield. Register by November 4th by contacting the Jefferson County Extension Office at 641/472-4166. Cost for the training is \$20, this includes judge's resources, refreshments & name entered in the statewide 4-H Judge's Database.

If you or you know someone who would be a great judge, please pass this information along to them. For more information contact Youth Program Specialist, Kati Peiffer, 641/233-7238 or KPeiffer@iastate.edu.

4-H PLEDGE

I PLEDGE MY HEAD TO CLEARER THINKING, MY HEART TO GREATER LOYALTY, MY HANDS TO LARGER SERVICE, AND MY HEALTH TO BETTER LIVING, FOR MY CLUB, MY COMMUNITY, MY COUNTRY, AND MY WORLD.



Calendar

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER - OCTOBER:

- October 1st: Clover Kids from 9:00 am – 10:00 am @ Extension office – first meeting of the 2011 – 2012 year
- October 2nd – 8th: National 4H Week
- October 5th: Ringgold County Extension Council meeting @ 7:00 pm @ Extension office
- October 11th: Record Book Judging @ Extension office
- October 12th: Ringgold County Fair Board meeting
- October 23rd: 4H Celebration from 4:00 – 6:00 pm @ the Ringgold County Fair grounds

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER - NOVEMBER:

- November 2nd: Ringgold County Extension Council meeting @ 7:00 pm @ Extension office
- November 5th: Clover Kids from 9:00 am – 10:00 am @ Extension office
- November 24th – 25th: Extension office CLOSED for Thanksgiving

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

Monsanto Again Sponsors: America's Farmers Grow Communities

Farmers in all 99 Iowa Counties have the opportunity to plant the seed that helps grow their communities. Through America's Farmers Grow CommunitiesSM, sponsored by the Monsanto Fund, farmers can win \$2,500 for their favorite community nonprofit organization.

Since Grow Communities began, nearly 60,000 farmers across 1,204 counties in 38 states signed up to help grow their community with more than \$4.2 million in donations from the Monsanto Fund. The second annual Grow Communities program will include 1,245 counties across 39 states, which will result in an additional \$102,500 going back to rural communities.

The program is part of a broad commitment by the Monsanto Fund to invest in farm communities, in order to highlight the important contributions farmers make every day to our society. Farmers can apply online at www.growcommunities.com, or call 1.877.267.3332 to apply by phone.

Farmers, age 21 and over, who are actively engaged in farming a minimum of 250 acres of corn, cotton, or soybeans, or 40 acres of open field vegetables, or at least 10 acres of tomatoes, peppers and/or cucumbers grown in protected culture are eligible. Farmers can enter now through Nov. 30, 2011. The program is open to all qualifying farmers, and no purchase is necessary in order to enter or win. Farmers who meet the eligibility requirements may enter regardless of previous participation. One winner will be drawn from each of the participating counties, and the Monsanto Fund will announce winning farmers and recipient organizations in January 2012.

Note: Twin River Tornadoes 4H Club were recipients for the \$2500 for Ringgold county last year.

4-H
Fun. Friends. Voice. Choice