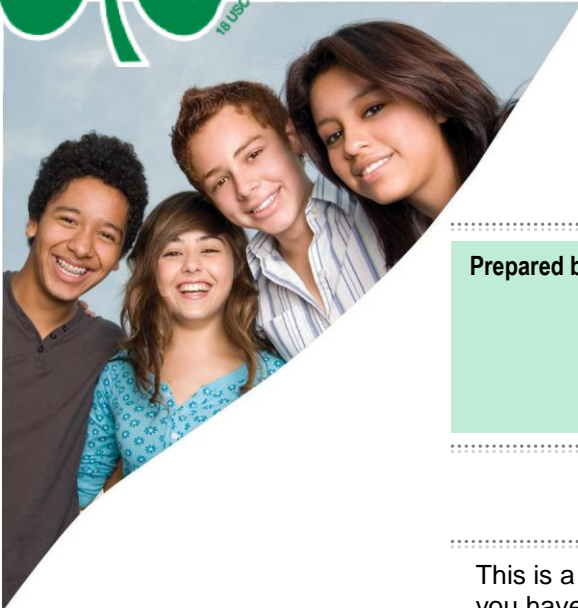




4-H CONNECTION...AN UPDATE FOR 4H FAMILIES



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4H Enrollment

This is a friendly reminder that 4H enrollment is being done online this year. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to ask. While there is no deadline to enroll in 4H, the sooner you do it the better. Earlier enrollment will make sure that you remain on all mailing lists, getting all the information you will need.

While enrolling in 4H is online, we do still need to receive the \$15 fee in the office. 4H enrollment will not be considered complete until the \$15 fee is received.

“4H Online” is the name of our 4H database system. It is where you go to enroll in 4H, but you can also access it 24/7 to make changes to: address, project areas, etc. Another big change this year is that all 4H animals will be identified within the “4H Online” system. We kicked this off with the market beef animals verified in December – all went well. More information will be given out closer to time for all the other species.

WHAT'S INSIDE:

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Additional Notes

We would like to welcome our new 4-H club members since the last newsletter:

**Hanna Ackley
Lindsay Hays
Kade Klomnhaus**

**Cole Mobley
Elizabeth Sobotka
Jamie Stackhouse**

4-H
GROWING TOGETHER





4H Club Leader Training

“Health” is an integral part of 4-H and we are reminded of it every time we say the 4-H pledge. Whether you are a novice who wants to learn more or a Master “Clover Chef”, join your 4-H volunteer colleagues at the 2011-2012 volunteer training. We will “test” our 4-H recipe and check to make sure we are including the essential elements and key ingredients that go into a healthy and robust 4-H program. Master Clover Chefs (experienced volunteers) will share how their use of the essential elements “cooks up” successful outcomes in their club members. See what it takes to be a Master Clover Chef – and bring some of your own “secret ingredients” that spice up your club and program to share with others!

This training is part of the statewide 4-H volunteer training and will be held on Tuesday, February 21st at 7:00 pm at the Extension office meeting room..

A benefit of participating in the face-to-face volunteer training is the interaction and sharing. If you are not able to attend the training, contact the Extension office to learn more about participating through other training options.

Regional 4-H Camp for 5th & 6th Graders

We are very excited that we will be continuing Regions 12, 17 & 18 Area 5th & 6th Grade Junior Camp. We have shown strong evidence that the camping experience is a strong life skill building experience for our campers and Counselors and a strong tool in creating a significant 4-H experience that may affect members staying in 4-H. Celebrate with us another year of 4-H camping geared for our Southwest Iowa 4-H Members!

Take a ride on the "WILD" side and mark on your calendars to attend **Area 4-H 5th & 6th Grade Junior Camp for Regions 12, 17 & 18**, June 10-13 at the Iowa 4-H Camping Center near Madrid, Iowa. Experience the adventure and excitement of four days filled with 4-H camp traditions and favorite activities, including nature hikes, creek stomping, wall climbing, canoeing, camp songs, swimming, outdoor camping basics, and campfires! Learn to create cool crafts that work great as 4-H working exhibits. Bring a friend with you or make new ones! Camp will run from Sunday, June 10 at 3 p.m. until our closing ceremony starting at Noon on Wednesday, June 13.

4-H camps are open to ALL YOUTH – membership in a 4-H club is not a requirement – so bring a friend to share the experience! Area 4-H Junior camp is open to all Region 12, 17 & 18 youth who have completed grades 5 and 6 and will be held in Birch Village. The camp will be filled at 100 youth, so you will want to register early before it fills up. Registration, Parental Permission and Request for providing Medication at a 4-H Event form (if your camper will be bringing any medications with them) are available from the county extension office or downloaded from <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/harrison/news/2011Jr4HCamp.htm> in Microsoft Word and Adobe PDF format. We will be using your Medical form filled out at the beginning of the 4-H Year provided to us by your county extension office. Please make sure you have it updated if needed. If you are not a current 4-H'er, you will need to fill out a Medical Info form found also at the Jr Camp Website above or from your ISU County Extension Office. Registration Deadline is May 25. Cost for the four day camp will be \$145.00. Check with your County Extension office as most counties may have camp scholarships for 4-H'ers or financial help if needed. Please contact David Seilstad, phone: 712/644-2105 or email: seilstad@iastate.edu if you have any questions on this camp or others offered at the Iowa 4-H Camping center: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4hcenter/summercamp/index.php>

***Please Note: Camp Counselors are also needed – senior 4H member at least 16 years old by camp time. If interested contact Dawn for more information.**

MISSION STATEMENT

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



Iowa 4-H Clubs Overnight @ Science of Iowa

4-H clubs across Iowa are invited to the Science Center of Iowa for a special night of fun and education, April 27th, 2012. You'll have a chance to explore our travelling exhibit "Lost Egypt: Ancient Secrets, Modern Science, attend a late night IMAX about Mummies, travel to Egyptian Skies in our Star Theater and sleep inside the museum. In the morning you'll be able to explore SCI before anyone else gets the chance and you can stay at SCI all day for free. The Science Center of Iowa looks forward to hosting an event for you to meet new friends and learn about the great world of science! For all the details and registration, [click here](#). To view more information about the Science Center of Iowa – visit <http://www.sciowa.org/>

Iowa 4-H Center News: Camps at Madrid

Greetings from the Iowa 4-H Center! Even though summer is months away we are busy planning for another great camp season. Camp is a great way for youth in the 4-H program to further their knowledge in a project area, make new friends, try something new, take healthy risks in a safe environment, and explore the outdoors.

This year we offer over 30 specialty camp programs, a NEW climbing wall for our swimming pool, opportunities for the whole family, and much more. It will be a very exciting summer and we want you (or your child) to be part of the 4-H camp tradition.

Join us for a great camping season in 2012. You'll find that prices for camp did not increase from 2011, but the fun and tradition of camp has! Register your camper directly on-line at www.iowa4hcamp.com

All 4-H and Clover Kid members get a member price on camps at the Iowa 4-H Center and there are other discounts available as well. Register by April 1st and receive the Early Bird discount. Don't delay, register for camp today!

Resident & Day Camp Sessions:

The Iowa 4-H Center offers over 30 specialty resident camp programs for youth ages 6 and up and 9 sessions of day camp for youth ages 6-12. There even is camps for the whole family! Check out the camp sessions by clicking on the links provided below:

[Resident Camp Sessions](#)

[Day Camp Sessions](#)

Iowa 4-H Foundation Camp Scholarships:

Families can apply to the Iowa 4-H Foundation for financial help to attend our summer camp sessions. *4-H membership is not required.*

The 4-H Camp Financial Assistance Application and Guidelines are available at your local ISU Extension office or can be downloaded at www.iowa4hcamp.com. Applications are due March 1st.

Wanted: Summer Camp Staff:

The Iowa 4-H Center is recruiting responsible, energetic, outdoor loving individuals to work on our 2012 summer staff. All candidates must be 18 years of age and have completed a year of college by May 2012. To learn more about being a part of our summer staff read [*4-H Camp Counselors Grow with Campers*](#).

Applications can be filled out [on-line](#) or contact program specialist, [Abbie Parker](#) for more information. Open interviews and camp tours are available to applicants on February 18th and March 24th. Applications are due April 30th.

For more camp information, contact the Extension office.

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 - FEBRUARY:

- February 1st: Market Beef data must be verified in 4H Online (contact Dawn with any questions)
- February 1st: Ringgold County Extension Council meeting @ 7:30 pm @ Extension office
- February 4th: Clover Kids from 9:00 – 10:00 am at Extension office
- February 8th: Ringgold County Fair Board meeting @ 7:00 pm
- February 15th: 4H & Youth Committee meeting @ 7:00 pm
- February 21st: 4H Club Leader Training @ 7:00 pm @ Extension office (details included in newsletter)
- February 26th: County Council meeting @ 6:04 pm @ Extension office

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER - MARCH:

- March 1st: 4-H Scholarship applications due at the State 4-H office
- March 3rd: Clover Kids from 9:00 – 10:00 am at Extension office
- March 7th: Ringgold County Extension Council meeting @ 7:30 pm @ Extension office
- March 17th: New 4-H Leader Training in Atlantic (more details to come)
- March 14th: Ringgold County Fair Board meeting @ 7:00 pm
- March 25th – 31st: Extension Week

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

- **Grant Money for Service Learning:** The saying “My Hands to Larger Service” is an integral part of our youth’s 4H experience. Please consider having your 4-H club develop a plan and complete a service learning project that will improve your community. Reach Out Iowa service learning funds are available, this year only, to help your club with project expenses. To get started contact Dawn at the Ringgold County Extension office or Jane Hayes-Johnk, Youth program specialist at jhjohnk@iastate.edu or 712.243.1132.

Note: There is NO deadline date. Once applications are submitted there is a short turn around time to see if grant monies will be received.

- **USDA Youth Loan Program:** This program is available to 4H and FFA members between the ages of 10-21. This is a great opportunity to offer credit to youth for their agriculture-related projects while at the same time educates them about their responsibilities as a borrower. Fact sheets and loan applications are available at the Extension office and/or the USDA Farm Service Agency.

4-H
Fun. Friends. Voice. Choice