



Clover Chatter



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New Year, New Beginnings, New Goals

Dear 4-H Family,

Now that the holidays are behind us, it's time to think 4-H! Be sure to keep all important deadlines and other important dates on your calendar. The next few months will be very busy and we don't want you to miss anything.

In 4-H Spirit,

Dee

County Youth Coordinator

"Be sure to keep all important deadlines and other important dates on your calendar."

~ Dee

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IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
University Extension



State Volunteer Retreat to be held Feb. 10 and 11

This retreat brings together 4-H volunteers, staff, parents, and intermediate and senior 4-H members to network and learn about innovative programs that will help bring fresh perspectives and activities to Iowa 4-H programs. Friday evening, February 10 will be a general session for all attendees. Workshops and networking fill the day on Saturday, February 11.

A wide variety of workshop sessions will meet the needs of both new and experienced volunteers, staff, and 4-H members. Thanks to a grant from Monsanto, the registration fee this year is only \$10, which Harrison County Extension will pay for its adult volunteers, and includes lunch and snacks.

This year's Retreat is hosted by DMACC Continuing Education, and sponsored by ISU Extension. All activities, Friday evening and Saturday, will take place at the Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) Campus in Ankeny. It is located a few miles off I-80 and I-35 north of Des Moines. The registration fee covers sessions during

the time you are registered, a snack on Friday evening and snacks and lunch on Saturday. DMACC will provide general CEU credit for attending the sessions. If you are traveling from a distance and attending both Friday and Saturday, check the registration information on the website for hotel arrangements on Friday night.



It is especially important to register early to get your first choice of sessions! Registration is due to the Harrison County Extension Office by Jan. 18.

3rd Annual 4-H Night at the Lancers Feb. 18



4-H members, friends, and family are invited to join other 4-H youth from Region 17

at the 3rd annual 4-H Night at the Lancers on Feb. 18 at the Omaha

Civic Auditorium. The game begins at 7:05 p.m.

Ticket are \$8.00 (pre-orders) or \$15 for a ticket plus a commemorative t-shirt.

Deadline to pre-order tickers is Feb. 3 at NOON. Anyone ordering

tickets by February 3 will get their name in a drawing.

There will also be \$1.00 Suds (drinks) and Dogs from 6-7 p.m. that evening.

MISSION STATEMENT

4-H EMPOWERS YOUTH TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL WORKING



Attention High School Juniors

Poultry Workshop to be held Feb. 4 in Harrison County

On Sat., Feb. 4, there will be a Poultry Workshop from 9-11 a.m. at the Harrison County Extension Office.

Do not bring your birds but come to learn more about caring for them and preparing for fair. Diana Dahir is in charge of the workshop.

Other Workshops Coming Up

Be watching for information about these upcoming workshops.

March—Poster/Presentation

April—Table Setting

May—Horse

June—Beef

Attention Seniors

Spotlight: Hixson Scholarship—Worth Half Tuition



Many scholarships are available to honor the best and brightest students. Often missing from that spotlight are students with

the ability and determination but more modest resumes or records of performance due to circumstances beyond their control.

Since 1995, the Hixson Awards have recognized more than 1,300 of these Iowa high school students in their quest for a college education.

The **Hixson Opportunity Award is a half-tuition scholarship, estimated at more than \$13,000** offered annually to one student from each of Iowa's 99 counties. Once enrolled, Hixson Scholars at Iowa State regularly

surpass national and university averages for grade-point, persistence, and graduation. More than 650 Hixson Scholars have now graduated from Iowa State University.

The online application is now available for the 2012 Hixson Awards.

The application includes an electronic request for recommendation. www.dso.iastate.edu/hixson/application/ Application deadline is February 1, 2012.

4-H FACT

ALMOST SEVEN MILLION YOUTH PARTICIPATED IN 4-H LAST YEAR IN THE U.S.



Senior 4-H'ers take note!

State Recognition Opportunities Available

Now is the time to start applying for State 4-H Awards, National 4-H Conference, National 4-H Congress, State 4-H Council and Technology Team.

There are many opportunities for 4-H'ers beyond the county level. You can apply for the following state and national events.

State 4-H Council - 10th & 11th graders can apply for State 4-H Council. This group plans the State 4-H Conference, helps with the Iowa State Fair, and acts as ambassadors for 4-H at various events around the state.

National 4-H Congress - 10th & 11th graders can win a trip to Atlanta, Georgia. You will study issues that are important to youth and learn more about making contributions to your community.

National 4-H Conference - 9th-11th graders can apply for a trip to Washington, D.C., where you will meet with 4-H'ers from all over the

work on the state 4-H web page, and promote technology at the Iowa 4-H Youth Conference. This opportunity is available to non-4-H'ers, too.

“There are many opportunities beyond the county level. ...If any of these special events sound like something you’d like to do, please go to [www. Extension.iastate.edu/4h/teens/awards.com](http://www.Extension.iastate.edu/4h/teens/awards.com) or call the office.”

United States, and help set policies for the national 4-H program.

State Project Awards - 9th-12th graders can apply for this award, which is a \$100 savings bond. Pick one or two project areas and tell what you have done and what you have learned, and how you have grown as a 4-H'er.

Iowa Youth Technology Corps - 9th, 10th or 11th graders will meet with teens from around Iowa to

The application form for all of these awards consists of five questions plus support material, which can be a story, photos, records, etc.

If any of these special events sound like something you'd like to do, go to www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/teens/awards.com or call the office.

The website contains all the information you need to complete your application.

Call the office if you need help with your application. The due date is February 1 at the State 4H Office. Interviews will be held on Sat., March 24 in Ames..

Volunteering May Be Tax Deductible

As a 4-H volunteer, you may be able to deduct some of your expenses on your federal tax return if you itemize deductions. Out-of-pocket expenses you may be able to deduct include mileage, parking fees and tolls, overnight lodging and meals, uniforms, and

supplies.

You can't deduct the cost of your time, even if you lost pay for taking time off from your job in order to volunteer.

For more specific information, contact your tax preparer.



SENIOR 4-H'ers

Reserve June 26-28, 2012 for the State Youth and 4-H Conference / Animal Science ROUND-UP.



2012 Harrison Co. Cattlemen's 4-H Beef Trophy Auction

Recently at the Harrison County Cattlemen's annual banquet, over \$6,200 was raised during the trophy auction to support 4-H'ers with beef projects.

Harrison County Cattlemen, local business owners and individuals came together to support 4-H youth showing cattle at the upcoming 2012 Harrison County Fair.

One hundred percent of the money raised will be divided among 4-H'ers who show their beef projects at the 2012 Harrison County Fair. Each 4-H'er who showed a market beef project in 2011 received over \$140 per animal.

The money raised is to help 4-H'ers deal with high feed costs and to encourage them to pursue their interest in raising and showing beef cattle.

Businesses that supported this year's

4-H Beef Challenge are:

*Community Bank
Farmers Trust and Savings Bank
1st National Bank, Logan
Stephany Coe Insurance
Cogdill Farm Supply
O'Neill Angus
Shelby Vet Clinic
Todd Cohrs of Farm Credit Services of America
People's National Bank
Fouts Funeral Home
United Bank of Iowa
Washington County Bank, Blair
Lazy H—Murray Hubbard
Cooper Polled Hereford*

Discovering 4-H'ers

Enrollment Reminders for Third Graders

You must be in the third grade to enroll in 4-H in Harrison County. Third graders will be considered Discovering 4-H'ers and will have some limitations as to what they can and cannot participate in.

Third graders (Discovering 4-H'ers) are not al-

lowed to exhibit large animals, show dogs or participate in showmanship classes at the fair.

Kindergarten through 2nd graders are considered Clover Kids.

Discovery/ Junior Movie Day Jan. 28 at Ext. Office

The annual Discover/Junior Movie Day will be held on Jan. 28

from 10 a.m. to noon at the Harrison County Extension Office.

We will have a movie and snacks. The cost is \$2 per 4-H'er, but will not exceed \$5 per family.



Animal Project Updates and Important Info

FSQA REQUIREMENTS

The 4-H Food Safety and Quality Assurance (FSQA) program will continue this year. All animal exhibitors (except horse, dog and cat) will have to be certified.

FSQA dates have been set for February 16 and March 20. Watch for more details.

LIVESTOCK PROJECT WORKSHEET

Meat animal and breeding animal project record forms are available online at www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects as well as Hot Sheets for each breed and class.

AK-SAR-BEN

The Ak-Sar-Ben Livestock Exposition will be held September 27-30, 2012, at the Century Link Center in Omaha.

Verification was done at the county weigh-in. Entry forms will be available closer to county fair and more info can be found at <http://www.rivercityrodeo.com/stock-show>.

Animal Project Updates and Important Info

BEEF

Market beef had to be ID'd and weighed at the county-wide weigh-in. Market Beef intending to go to Iowa State Fair also needed to have retinal imaging done at that time. Market Beef intending to go to Ak-Sar-Ben needed a DNA sample pulled at that time.

Cows for the cow-calf project and feeder calf project must be ID'd by May 15.

Feeder calves and bucket/bottle calves must be ID'd by May 15.

SWINE

If you are farrowing your own pigs, you should plan to pick pigs from a litter born in the first part of February. If you are purchasing feeder pigs, you should plan to purchase 40-50 lbs. pigs in April.

Pigs must be identified by May 15 using 4-H ear tags. To be eligible for the Iowa State Fair, pigs must have ear notches, a DNA sample, weighed and ear-tagged at an official site (to be announced) by May 15.

SHEEP

Sheep are also ear-tagged and ID sheets are to be filled in and returned to the Extension office by May 15.

To be eligible to show at the Iowa State Fair, market sheep must be ear-tagged, have retinal images on file, and weighed at a designated site by May 15.

Ak-Sar-Ben will also have special DNA requirements. Be watching for more details.

Remember to check out the new HOT SHEETS for project ideas/tips at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects>

4-H IS BASED ON RESEARCH



Project Updates and Ideas

ANIMALS

Reminder: If an animal breathes, it needs an I. D. sheet. Various animals have specific requirements as well.

Rabbits, for example, must be ID'd by a tattoo number (preferred) or a permanent marker number in the left ear. They also need an ID sheet filled out and returned by June 15.

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

Now is the time to try new recipes and set your food and nutrition goals. Do you want to learn a new cooking technique? Discover low fat recipes for your family? Make a heritage cookbook?

Check out the Hot Sheet at www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/hotsheets/foodnutritionhotsheet.pdf for more ideas in this area.

AG & NATURAL RESOURCES

Are you environmentally conscious? Maybe one of these project ideas catches your eye:

- A presentation about wind energy
- Creating a trees of Iowa poster
- Writing a letter to the editor about a conservation issue that concerns you
- Organizing a clean up day for a local park

Project Updates and Ideas

SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, TECH

If a rocket's red glare sparks your creativity, consider an aerospace project.

Reach for the stars with astronomy or learn how to get there with rocketry or space flight.

The skies the limit for projects: constellations, rocket launchers, workshops and more.

Check out <http://aerospace.iowa4h.org/>

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

No other project area can help you prepare for the real world more than communications. But did you know that communications can go beyond an educational presentation?

- Write a poem or short story collection and make copies for friends
- Volunteer to read books at the library or an elementary school
- Create a puppet show for a Cloverbud club about 4H

CREATIVE ARTS / PHOTOGRAPHY

Don't forget to take pictures throughout the year for your photography project. Spend time getting to know your camera and what it can do so you can share that information with a judge at fair.

Consider interviewing a professional photographer and/or shadowing him or her. This would make a great write up for fair.

More ideas are available in the Photography Hot Sheet online.

Remember to check out the new HOT SHEETS for project ideas/tips at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects>

OUR VISION

A WORLD IN WHICH YOUTH AND ADULTS LEARN, GROW, AND WORK TOGETHER AS CATALYSTS FOR POSITIVE CHANGE



Events and Opportunities

DATE	EVENT / OPPORTUNITY
January 10	Junior FLL—First Meeting
January 14	4-H– ISU Women’s Basketball
January 18	State 4-H Leader’s Retreat Registration Due at the Extension Office
January 25	Harrison County Lego Jamboree—Logan Community Center
January 28	Discovery/ Jr. Movie Day, Extension Office, 10 a.m. to noon
February 1	4-H Scholarship Applications due in the State 4-H Office Hixson Opportunity Awards Application Due State Recognition Applications Due at State 4-H Office
February 3	Final Day to Order Lancer Hockey Tickets
February 4	Poultry Workshop 9-11 a.m.
February 12	Jr. County Council, 4 p.m. County Council, 5 p.m.
February 10-11	State 4-H Leader’s Retreat
February 18	4-H Night at the Lancer’s Hockey Game
March 17	Poster/ Presentation Workshop
March 24	Recognition Interviews, Ames
June 26-28	State Youth/ 4-H Conference/ Animal Science Roundup “Aim for Adventure”
July 14	Harrison County Dog Show
July 17-22	Harrison County Fair “Brighten Your World”
August 9-19	Iowa State Fair “It’s Fairlicious”