

Bremer County 4-H HOTLINE – January/February 2009

4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, communication, and life skills.

Dear 4-H'ers, Families and Friends,

This is the first HOTLINE for 2009. It contains a lot of important information about upcoming events and dates. Mark your calendars now so you don't miss out on the fun!

If you have any questions or need further information, contact the club leaders or me at the Bremer County Extension Office.

Cloverly,

Nancy Everman

everman@iastate.edu

Bremer County Extension Web page <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Bremer>

Bremer County Fair

www.bremercountyfair.com

From the CEED

Happy New Year from all of us at the Bremer County Extension Office! The Beef weigh-in was held in December and went without a hitch, thanks to the great volunteers who helped.

Work continues on the strategic plan for Bremer 4-H, which includes recruiting and retaining members. The challenge is our family dynamics have changed because both parents may be working, youth are involved in many activities, and the limited time individual families have to participate in 4-H. The team that worked on this in November spent several hours brainstorming, discussing, and developing ideas. Soon, we will be meeting with youth throughout the county and listening to their needs, ideas, and why or why not be involved in 4-H.

Omelet Brunch Sunday March 15th, 2009 4-H Building, Waverly Serving 8:00AM-12:30

It is time once again to promote this wonderful fundraiser for the 4-H program in Bremer County. Invite your friends, neighbors, grandparents, and business people to this great event to feast on an omelet and other goodies made by 4-H'ers and celebrity cooks.

Each club is to provide 4 members and 3 adults to help in the kitchen, dining room, wash dishes, clean tables, pour beverages, and general cleanup on the day of the brunch. This is a fun event and a great way to make new friends or renew friendships. Select Sunday shift times below.

Saturday Set up-Douglas Rockets

Shift times for Sunday are:

7:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m.

9:15 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

10:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.

12:30 p.m.-2:00 p.m.– Townline



Each club is asked to donate at least 1 gallon or more of Tropical Fruit and some goodies. If you have not signed up-do so soon! We need 25 gallons of Tropical Fruit and 80 dozen muffins, rolls, quick bread, coffee cake, donuts, etc. Please call the office to sign up to bring fruit and goodies NOW!

The fundraiser money raised pays for \$10 of the State Program Development Fee with members/clubs paying the other \$10.

LEADER NEWS. . .

Mandatory Volunteer Training-If you did not attend the September Leader's Meeting, you should have received a letter in the mail telling you about your options to complete the Fall 2009 Training. 4-H organizational club leaders, project leaders, and/or all volunteers who have ongoing contact with youth are required to complete two trainings per year. We have four leaders meetings per 4-H year with two of them required training. The trainings for 2009 need to be done by July 1, 2009.

If you choose to attend the State Volunteer Retreat February 6th and 7th at DMACC in Ankeny and participate in workshop B-8 (Vibrant 4-H Clubs-Best Practices), this will fulfill your training requirement. Go to <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/volretreat.htm> or contact the Extension Office

Leaders Meeting-January 8th, 7PM

Area & State Recognition Opportunities

Get more involved in 4-H and expand your horizons! If you are a ninth through twelfth grader, there are many opportunities available to you for recognition awards or to represent Iowa in upcoming conferences on the state and national levels. These include: National 4-H Conference (9-11 grade), National 4-H Congress (10 and 11 grade), Iowa Youth Technology Team (9-11 grade), National Dairy Conference (9-12 grade), State 4-H Council (10-11 grade), and State 4-H Project Awards (9-12 grade).

If you would like to apply, a packet of information is available at the Extension Office or go to: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/recognition.htm>.

The area and state selection process for the above opportunities will involve:

- completing an application form and an interview
- gathering and putting together up to five pages of written support material or a ten minute audio or video tape (see application for format)
- an interview at the area level.

The application deadline is January 31 to the Bremer County Extension Office. Interviews are scheduled for March 15 in Oelwein or March 29 in Mason City.

4-H Night with the Black Hawks!

March 13th and 14 is 4-H Night with the Black Hawk Hockey Team. The Black Hawks are "going green" for the weekend! So make sure you wear your 4-H shirts!

For 4-H members and their parents, tickets are just \$7 in the Advanced Blue or White Zone. The deadline for advanced ticket order discounts is March 12th at 5:00PM. All ticket orders can be picked up at the "Will Call" window at the Young Arena Box Office.

To order tickets contact Tim Harwood at radio@waterlooblackhawks.com



Area Evaluators Needed for Recognition

NE Iowa Area Recognition event is set for March 15 at Oelwein or March 29 at Mason City. We need adults/teens that would be interested in helping with the area interviews. If you would like to help, contact the Extension Office by January 31. Information will be sent in mid-

4-H SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Refer to www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/grants.html. Packets of information were sent to all seniors. 4-H Scholarship applications and materials are due by February 1 to the State 4-H Youth Development Office in Ames. Scholarships are available for high school seniors and

HIXSON OPPORTUNITY AWARD

The Christina Hixson Opportunity award is a grant of \$10,000 (\$2500 a year for four years) to be used at Iowa State University. Seniors from across Iowa can receive the award – one per county. Criteria: have faced challenges of personal and/or financial hardship, be resident of Iowa, possess potential to succeed, be admissible to Iowa State University, and demonstrate

2009 Iowa's Promise Youth Grant Application

The application is now available for youth groups to apply for 2009 Iowa's Promise Youth Grants to be used for community improvement or local service projects. The Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service in partnership with Iowa State University Extension 4-H Youth Development, is again offering grants up to \$250.

4-H clubs can apply for, and receive, both Pioneer Grants and Iowa's Promise Youth Grants.

Grant descriptions and guidelines can be found at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/iowaspromise.html> along with the link to the Iowa's Promise Youth Grants web page and the grant application.

Please note the Iowa Promise Youth Grant is due February 5th

2009 Graduating SENIORS - Bremer SWCD \$500 Scholarship

Bremer SWCD is offering a \$500 Local Scholarship for one student who lives in Bremer County and is pursuing programs of study in any field of agriculture or natural resources in their first year of study on the college level.

Please apply on the website:

<http://www.cdiowa.org/awrds.html> and return to the Bremer SWCD office before March 3, 2009.

Bremer SWCD Poster Contest

Posters created for the 2009 Soil and Water Conservation Poster Contest will feature the theme "Dig It! The Secrets of Soil".

All posters are due March 31st and there will be cash prizes for first and second place! Contact the Extension office for rules about the poster and where you can submit it too!



BEEF Weigh-In

One hundred market beef were weighed in on December 20th at the Waverly Sale Barn. Thanks to the Waverly Sales Barn and staff; Bremer County Cattleman; Virgil Pries, Jerry Janssen, Eric Lohmenn, Kevin Rasing, Judy and Laverne Leistikow, Josh Beyer, Donald Blasberg, Danny Buls, Deb and Liz Leisinger, Ken Everman, Galan and Austin Kramer, David Beyer, Chase Beyer, Dave Wecott, and Ron Dean. It takes a lot of volunteers to make this a safe event. (Hope I have not missed anyone - if so, I am sorry)

FARM CREDIT SERVICES OF AMERICA

Youth in Agriculture Loans

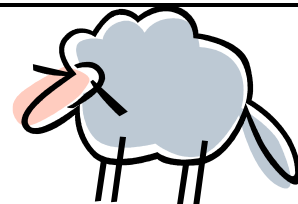
Because credit and financing is such a large part of today's ag operations, the Farm Credit Services of America Youth in Agriculture program provides young producers practical experience in how loans are made, the credit factors involved in agricultural lending and matching production with loan repayment. Participants will actually go through the steps necessary in applying for a loan and work with Farm Credit financial officers to create a business plan for their individual project or projects.

Farm Credit Services of America provides funds to local 4-H, FFA or other youth projects. Loans of up to \$2,500.00 per individual are available to be used for production projects that will be repaid within an annual production cycle, including feeder pigs, feeder calves and feeder lambs. Other types of projects will also be considered. For more information, please contact the Cedar Falls office at 800.369.3551.

Legislative Day: Power of Youth

On Tuesday March 31st, a group of three to four seventh and eighth grade 4-Hers will get the opportunity to participate in Legislative Day! This team will learn how to impact their communities and government. Registration for this event is March 1st. If you are an intermediate interested in being on this team or an adult would like to chaperone, please contact the extension office for more information.

The **Iowa Youth Horse Jamboree** will be held Saturday and Sunday April 4th and 5th at the Iowa State Fairgrounds in Des Moines. All youth activities will again take place in the cattle Barn. 4-H'ers can participate in hippology, quiz bowl, team grooming, as well as many Horseless Horse activities (model horse show, photography, art , writing, clothes, public speaking, etc). The Jamboree is open to ALL youth; 4-H, FFA, horse clubs, etc. Entry deadline is March 1st. Please be sure to read through submission deadlines for certain Horseless Horse entries. Information and entry forms can be found at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/Agriculture/livestockhandbookhorse.htm>



FSQA Food Safety and Quality Assurance Certification Training and Testing

All (4-H & FFA) beef, dairy (includes bottle/bucket exhibitors 4-6 grade), goats (dairy and meat), sheep, swine, poultry, and rabbit exhibitors **MUST** be FSQA certified by July 1 to exhibit at the 2009 county and state fair.

TRAINING-SATURDAY, APRIL 18TH 9-11 A.M. (TESTING 11-NOON)
Bremer County Extension Office Meeting Room
~OR~

TRAINING WEDNESDAY MAY 20TH 6:30-8:30 P.M. (TESTING 8:30-9:30)
Bremer County Extension Office Meeting Room

There are two ways that 4-H'ers and FFA members can become FSQA certified-training and testing.

The training provides members with the 7 good production practices: ethics-in and out of the show ring, hands on experiences giving shots, keeping records, reading a feed label, healthy practices, bio-security, care and handling, and vet relationships. Many more exciting and fun things to learn about raising animals and producing a safe, high quality food product will be provided.

All youth ages 9-11 (on January 1) will need to attend an approved training each year. Youth ages 12-14 (Jan 1) will have the option of attending a training every year or using the test option which will certify them until they turn 15. Youth ages 15-18 (Jan. 1) will have the option of attending a training every year or using the test option Which will certify them until they turn 19. When youth turn 19, they will need to certify in the adult Quality Assurance program according to the adult rules

Testing can be done by appointment at the Extension Office in Tripoli by contacting Nancy or attending one of The test sessions listed above. A study guide is available at the Extension Office to help prepare for the test. 4-H and FFA Youth are trained and tested by the ISU Extension Service. Although Vets are partners in this process and may assist with the training, they can no longer sign individual certification cards for youth. Call the Extension Office if you have questions or if the dates/times do not fit your schedule. You may be able to Attend another county training.

Please pre-register 1 week before the training or testing by calling the Extension Office

Traveling Exhibit

Did you participate in the Traveling Exhibit and don't have your project back yet? Well they are all at the Extension Office ready to be picked up. Some of the projects have been given back to the club leaders, so contact your leaders before checking at the Extension Office. Call the Extension Office if you are not able to come to Tripoli to pick up the project and we will work something out



Shooting Sports



Shooting Sports dates: Saturday February 7
Saturday March 7

Time: 2:00-4:00PM

Where: Jim's Sports Shop
105 E. Bremer Ave
Waverly

What to bring: Archery equipment!!

Who: Parents and youth. The parents are also encouraged to bring their archery equipment. This will be a fun event for parents and children to enjoy using archery techniques.

For more information or if anyone would like to join Shooting Sports, contact:
Galan Kramer: 319-276-3358



Family Gathering at the 4-H Building!

When: January 25th, 2009

Time: 2:00-5:00P.M.

Who: All 4-H'ers and their families, leaders, and volunteers

What: Fun filled gathering!



Come join us at the Family Gathering January 25th for a fun filled afternoon! Games, door prizes, and food will all be offered. There is no registration and we ask that you bring one can of food per family to donate to the food bank instead of a entry fee.

So come and join us to have some fun with your friends and family!