

# DECEMBER CLOVER CONNECTION



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## Happy Holidays & Beyond

It is with great pleasure that I send this newsletter. There are so many great things happening and coming up to sprinkle this great time of year with 4-H goodness. Together with awesome supporters of the program, I am preparing for many learning opportunities for young people, both time honored and totally new.

Application Extravaganza and YC2 will give our young people something to do over the holiday break and expand their learning in a variety of ways. I will be teaming up with two recent grads and other key players to deliver these new exciting opportunities. Please encourage youth to consider the possibilities.

*Susan M. Oliver*, Cass County Youth Coordinator

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**4-H**  
GROWING TOGETHER

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
University Extension

805 WEST 10TH STREET, ATLANTIC, IA | 712-243-1132 | 7:30 AM-12:00PM; 1:00 PM-4:30 PM

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## LOCAL 4-H NEWS

### Beef Weigh-In

Beef weigh-in is scheduled for Saturday, December 31 at the Cass County Fairgrounds from 8:00 – 2:00. This year we will be using retinal imaging to nominate animals going to the Iowa State Fair. Animals being nominated for Ak-Sar-Ben will still require DNA samples. Cost: \$1/county, \$5/State Fair, \$5/Ak-Sar-Ben. FFA members should check with advisors for any updates.

### Club Volleyball

The club volleyball tournament is Sunday, Jan 15 at Washington and AMS gyms. Teams must give their captain's name by Monday, Jan 2. Team captains will be sent schedules following the Jan 2 deadline. The January newsletter will have rules regarding this tournament. Get your club signed up before the holidays so you don't forget! There is no form to fill out to enter your team. Just call 243-1132 or email [xcass@iastate.edu](mailto:xcass@iastate.edu) to give us your captain's name.

## LOCAL 4-H NEWS

### Discovery Workshop

The countywide workshop for members enrolled in the Discovery project is Sunday, January 29 from 2:00-5:00 PM at the Cass County Community Center. This is a great way to complete a variety of exhibits for county fair, meet new friends and learn more about 4-H. The registration is \$5 and forms will be sent directly to all 3rd and 4th grade 4-H members and due Jan 16. We have several awesome activities planned for young people this year. Non 4-H

members will be welcomed at the workshop for a \$10 registration fee, so encourage young people to invite friends that are interested in learning more about 4-H.

Parents are requested to attend a parent information meeting to learn more about the program as well. The parent meeting is Jan 29 at 2:00 PM also. We will talk about how you can help your child get the most out of their 4-H experience and answer any questions you may have about the 4-H program.

## LOCAL 4-H NEWS

### Iowa Pork Congress Youth Judging Contest

The time has come again to start making plans to attend the Iowa Pork Congress! The Iowa Pork Producers Association would like to invite you to come spend a day with us in Des Moines. On Thursday January 26, 2012 there will be a youth judging contest held at the Polk County Convention Complex.

This year we would like to have all of the kids signed up prior to the contest so we can get an accurate

head count for the amount of lunches we need to order. Contact the Extension Office to get a registration form. By sending in a registration form, those kids will receive a lunch ticket with their judging cards. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Kelly Sheets at IPPA at 800-372-7675 or [ksheets@iowapork.org](mailto:ksheets@iowapork.org)

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you at the Iowa Pork Congress on January 26<sup>th</sup>!

## MISSION STATEMENT

4-H EMPOWERS YOUTH TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL WORKING



## LOCAL NEWS

### Service Opportunity

Duane McFadden from the Cass County Chapter of Salvation Army's Bell Ringing project is looking for volunteers for the holiday bell ringing campaign in Cass County.

Service organizations, school groups/classes, 4H or church groups, businesses, sports teams, individuals, etc. are encouraged to consider spending some time ringing the bell for the Cass County Chapter of Salvation Army this holiday season. Much of the donations are kept here in Cass County and go

towards victims of natural disasters, needy families, transportation and medical needs, etc. from Cass County.

If your group is looking for a community service or outreach project, please contact Duane McFadden with the Cass County Salvation Army Bell Ringers project at 781-2287 (Marne). Thank you.

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## STATE 4-H NEWS

### Reminder: Grant Money for Service Learning

During the spring 2011 4-H leader training "My Hands to Larger Service" club leaders were introduced to service-learning. 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 Susan at the Cass County Extension

office or Jane Hayes-Johnk, Youth program specialist at [jhjohnk@iastate.edu](mailto:jhjohnk@iastate.edu) or 712.243.1132.

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## LOCAL 4-H NEWS

### Clover Kids Find Out—January 16

Come January 16 to the Cass County Community Center at 6:00 PM to learn about Clover Kids. I want to help others understand the value and commitment of the Clover Kids program to get more adults involved and help our youth learn at an earlier age. Please send any interested adults to the event. This is educational only and there is no commitment just by coming. Individual decisions will be respected.

Clover Kids is a fun program for children in Kindergarten through 2nd grade. Groups could be separately or in conjunction with current 4-H clubs. Children participating in Clover Kids will: experience the fun of learning, gain self confidence, engage in age appropriate activities. Clover Kids do not have to have previous 4-H experience and training and resources are available. Please email [xcass@iastate.edu](mailto:xcass@iastate.edu) or call 243-1132 to register.

## MISSION STATEMENT

4-H EMPOWERS YOUTH TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL WORKING



## LOCAL 4-H NEWS

# Re-enrollment Incentive



Thank you to the clubs that successfully completed our re-enrollment incentive. Clubs were awarded if 85% of their potential club members from last year re-enrolled.

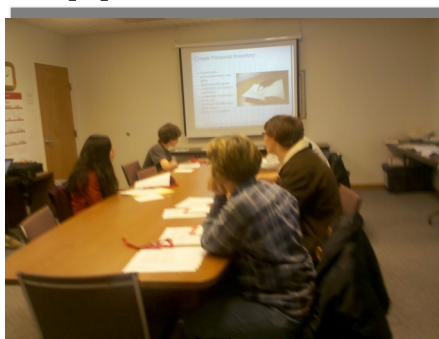
The guidelines stated that re-enrolled members of that club

would receive a coozie. Those clubs have been awarded their coozies.

We also have the opportunity to share free movie theater tickets with any enrolled club member, so stop in. We can make enrollment happen for you if you have not.

## LOCAL 4-H NEWS

# Application Extravaganza



Join former 4-H'ers and Extension staff as we explore the best tactics for developing successful material for applications of all varieties. This event is open to 9th-12th graders, both 4-H'ers and non. Application Extravaganza is January 2 at 12:30PM-4:30PM at the Cass County Community

Center. We will cover; getting information, organizing information, finding opportunities to apply for, resume building, 4-H awards and scholarships and letters of recommendation. Information will be general to benefit all young people in grades 9-12.

## STATE 4-H NEWS

# 4-H'ers: Apply for state recognition and trips!



You deserve to be recognized for your efforts and have some fun, too! If you are a ninth through twelfth grader, there are many opportunities available to you for recognition awards or to represent Iowa on the state and national levels. These include National 4-H Conference, National 4-H Congress, State 4-H Council, Iowa

Youth Technology Team, National 4-H Dairy Conference, and State 4-H Project Awards. Learn more about applying for these opportunities by contacting the county extension office and asking for a packet of information. Applications are due in State 4-H office on or postmarked no later than February 1, 2012.

# OUR VISION

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



**LOCAL 4-H NEWS**

# Calendar

**December**

- 6 YAC @ 7PM
- 11 Youth Council @ 4PM
- 23 Office Closed
- 26 Office Closed
- 27 YC2 Gathering @ 12:30PM-4:30PM
- 31 Beef Weigh-in 8AM-2PM

**January**

- 2 Volleyball deadline
- 2 Office Closed
- 2 Application Extravaganza @ 12:30PM-4:30PM at Cass Co. Comm Center
- 3 YAC @ 7PM
- 5 Fairboard @ 7PM
- 15 Volleyball @ 12NOON
- 16 Deadline for Discovery Registration

- 16 Polar Bears & Penguins Daycamp (K-2) AM or PM-Cass Co. Comm. Center
- 16 Clover Kids Find Out—6PM
- 29 Discovery Workshop @ 2:00PM

**February**

- 1 4-H Scholarship Apps Due
- 2 Fairboard @ 7
- 7 YAC @ 7PM
- 8 Share-the-Fun Deadline
- 9 Outdoor Adventures Daycamp-Griswold (Grades 3-5)
- 11 Outdoor Adventures Daycamp-CAM (Grades 3-5)
- 19 Share-the-Fun 2PM @ Cass Co. Comm. Center
- 20 Outdoor Adventures Daycamp-Atlantic (3-5)

**STATE 4-H NEWS**

## General Livestock Update

Our livestock project areas are some of our most traditional projects that teach a great deal of personal life management skills, as well as project mastery and knowledge. While they are a vital part of our program, they often require more rules and regulations for safety and organizational purposes. The best way to participate in a livestock project area is to become educated on those rules and regulations. There are resources you can familiarize yourself with.

**4-H 202**—the official document on identification, ownership and eligibility for livestock shows. You are responsible for following these guidelines when exhibiting 4-H livestock. You can get this from the Extension Office or online.

**The State 4-H Web site**—this is located at [www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/livestock](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/livestock). This Web site was designed by State 4-H staff and has many resources for exhibitors and their families.

**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.



## More...

### TEASURY CHECK-UP

Each Fall, treasurer training is held in Cass County to prepare the county's treasurers for their officer responsibility. Here are some treasury check-up items pulled from the *Financial Guidelines for Iowa 4-H Clubs and Groups, General Financial Guidelines for 4-H Treasurers*. Some things we should verify every month and some will be new additions related to the month's newsletter. Is your club following these guidelines?

- Club uses Treasurer's 4-H Record Book, 4-H 21 or computer program
- Checks are recorded, maintained and there are no missing checks.
- Records are written in ink to prevent changes.
- Treasurer's book can be reconciled with the most recent bank statement.
- Club requires at least two adult leader's names and the youth treasurer's name on the bank account.
- Two signatures are required on each check issued.
- Payments are made in response to a formal written bill or invoice and show the purpose of the expenditure.
- Club minutes reflect a monthly report by the club treasurer.
- Expenditures are made only after approval by the club members at the meeting in which they were presented for approval and payment, (recorded in the monthly minutes).
- All money received is acknowledged with a written receipt, deposited in the bank and receipts are a permanent part of the club records.
- Fundraising activities have prior review from the county extension 4-H youth staff.
- All money raised using the 4-H name is used only for 4-H activities. (Not given to individuals, but for; educational programs, activities, workshops or 4-H club supplies)
- Non-cash donations have been acknowledged in writing to the donor.

Note: The goal is for this to help the treasurers. Please as caring adults, help youth read and remember these responsibilities.

### WHO ARE OUR 4-H'ERS?

The goal to have all enrollments in is January 1. One club has all of their enrollments in. That is so fantastic. It is important for us to communicate with young people, get them materials they are interested in and let the state program know how strong our 4-H community is. We welcome 4-Hers year round, but soon we will be generating new club lists and some of you may no longer receive the newsletter if you did not re-enroll.

With this in mind, please contact any potential members right away. Outcomes associated with involvement in 4-H includes: leadership, citizenship, communication, knowledge and personal life management. Have families call me at 243-1132 if they have any trouble enrolling online at [ia.4honline.com](http://ia.4honline.com).

## WANT TO KNOW MORE?

FIND US AT: [EXTENSION.IASTATE.EDU/4H/CASS](http://EXTENSION.IASTATE.EDU/4H/CASS)