



Cass County 4-H News

Cass County

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January, 2008

Dear 4-H Families,

2007 is coming to an end! I hope you enjoy spending time with your families throughout this holiday season.

The beginning of the New Year is a great time to set new personal and project goals. These serve as a guide for your 4-H year. Think about what you want to accomplish during the year. Then make a plan... be sure to write it down. Ask yourself these questions:

What can I do to reach the goal? When should I finish each step of the plan? How can I share my project with others?

Goals are easier to accomplish when you have a plan and involve other people. Make sure the goals you set are important to you and are reachable. To learn more about writing goals, attend the Record Keeping Workshop on January 14 being put on by the YC.

Happy Holidays,

Julie Hering Kent

Youth Program Coordinator

Extension programs are available to all without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age or handicap



HAVE YOU HEARD?

Many 4-H clubs put their citizenship skills to work during the holiday season....

- Pleasant-Noble United donated food to the Lords Cupboard and donated hats, mittens and gloves to the Lords Closet. Also had a Christmas Bowling party
- Pymosa and Bear Grove Blazers applied for Pioneer Grants
- Several 4-H Clubs had trees at the American Cancer Society's Festival of Trees
- Grove HOT held a Family Soup Supper
- Washington GEM held a pillowcase workshop. Pillowcases are being donated to Childrens Hospital
- Union Leaders had a gift and cookie exchange

- Bear Grove Blazer made goodie plates to share with people in their community

4-H T-SHIRTS

4-H T-Shirts are available at J & J Custom Graphics (217 Walnut) in Atlantic. If you know you will need a new shirt, stop in and pick up one.

PROJECT MATERIAL

If you ordered literature, you will be receiving the materials from your 4-H leader. Be sure to look through the booklets for ideas on goals and exhibits. These are great resources to help you learn more about your projects.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SENIORS



If you are a senior in High School, and you are interested in attending College next year, **NOW** is the time to apply for scholarships. Application packets for 4-H Scholarships are available at the Extension Office. Deadline to apply for most, is **February 1st**.

The Christina Hixson Opportunity Award will provide a \$10,000 scholarship (\$2500.00 annually for four years) to a student from each of Iowa's 99 counties. Applications are available at the Extension Office.

To find other scholarship opportunities visit www.brownfieldnetwork.com/. Click on the "Ag Youth" link at the top of the page to find links to national scholarships or click on "Iowa" to learn about more state scholarships you may be eligible for.

SHARE THE FUN

Do you like to sing? Dance? Act? Play the piano or other instrument? Tell jokes or stories? Then Share the Fun is for you!

You can perform by yourself, in small groups, or with the entire club. The Youth Council is planning this county-wide talent show for **Sunday, February 10th** at the Atlantic Middle School Auditorium. Sign up to have fun while you practice your communication skills.

Plus there are **CASH PRIZES** in each division. We will have 2 divisions – one that is eligible for State Fair and a junior division – not old enough for State Fair. Deadline to enter acts is **February 1st**, and the entry fee is \$5.00. Please use the entry form in this newsletter.

CLUB EXCHANGE

Organizational leaders have been sent a club meeting schedule to help you decide which club to visit. When someone attends your club, introduce them and exchange ideas about educational presentations, tours, workshops, community service projects, recreation and parent involvement. Use it as a learning experience to improve your club and "Make the Best Better."

AREA RECOGNITION

Southwest Iowa Area Recognition Interviews are set for **Sunday, March 30, in Atlantic.**

Eligibility: 4-H'ers in grades 9-12

Opportunities: National 4-H Congress, National 4-H Conference, State 4-H Council, Youth Technology Team and State Project Awards.

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

- Completing an application form
- Gathering and putting together up to 5 pages of written support material or a 10 minute video or audio tape
- Interview at the area and state level

Applications are **due February 12**. For more information & applications, contact Julie at the Extension Office.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SENIORS

Senior 4-H'ers (grade 9-12) received a letter with information on various leadership opportunities.

Applications to be a Junior Superintendent at the fair are due to the Extension Office on January 2.

Seniors can also apply for Area Recognition.

WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?

A lot of times we're asked-"What's the big deal about attending six 4-H meetings?" Let's think of it this way... Let's say you are out for football, soccer, band, or any other fun activity. Now let's imagine you only attend four practices that season. When its time for the big tournament do you suppose your coach will let you start-let alone even play? NO WAY! Why? You're not supporting the team! 4-H is the same thing! Your club depends on you to make your club a strong team. Your leaders volunteer a lot of time to plan activities, to support you, to make your club the best it can be, so do your part! Be part of the 4-H team and attend as many "practices" as you can!

You must attend 6 meetings to be eligible to exhibit at the Cass County Fair.

FAIR SET-UP

County Fair Preparation day will be on **FRIDAY, JULY 25 starting at 6:00 PM**. Exhibit building judging will begin Saturday morning – that means judging won't run into the evening hours and will not overlap with poultry and beef check-in.

BEEF WEIGH-IN

Beef Weigh-In will run from 8:00 – 3:00 on Saturday, December 29. **All animals must be in the weigh-in Line by 3:00 PM on December 29 to be identified.** All Market Beef animals must come to weigh-in December 29 to be eligible to show at county fair.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES AT PORK CONGRESS

The Iowa Pork Producers Association is sponsoring youth activities during the 2008 Iowa Pork Congress January 23 & 24. If you are interested in the swine industry you are invited to attend and participate in the Skill-a-thon, and hear Youth Seminar Speakers

If you are in grades 7-12 you can also sign up to be a part of the IPPA Pork Youth Team. You will have the opportunity to participate in local and statewide events and programs while earning points for special prizes. For more information on Pork Congress or the Iowa Pork Youth team you may contact Julie at the extension office or visit our website.

RECORD KEEPING WORKSHOP “TURN OVER A NEW CLOVER”

The first step in completing your record book is to write your personal and project goals. And NOW is the time to do that.

The Youth Council will be holding a workshop on Monday, January 14 to help 4-H'ers with this. They will teach 4-H'ers the 3 parts of a goal, help them write their personal and project goals for 2008 and help 4-H'ers create a plan to reach those goals. The goal setting workshop will start at 6:30 at the Community Center. There is no pre-registration, just show up that evening. Parents are welcome to stay and learn too.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP GOAL

Our club membership goal for 2008 is 372. We have 333 members enrolled at this time. It is everyone's responsibility to help recruit new members to your club. Invite a friend to join 4-H and bring them to your next club meeting. Recruiting a friend is one way you can let others know that 4-H is a great organization. Remember – people join 4-H because they are asked and welcomed into a club. Enrollment forms for new members can be picked up at the Extension Office, are available from club leaders, and are on our web-site. Let's all work together to reach this year's goal.

LEADER TRAINING

Leaders who were not able to attend Leader Training in November will need to check out the DVD from the Extension Office or complete the on-line training at

www.extension.iastate.edu/4hvolunteers. If you have not completed Leader Training yet this fall please get this taken care of at your earliest convenience.

YOUTH ACTION COMMITTEE

The Cass County Youth Action Committee provides the opportunity for youth and adults to work together in the decision making process that impacts local youth and the 4-H program. This committee consists of an equal number of youth and adult representatives who help with planning programs and developing policy governing 4-H in Cass County. Members of this year's Youth Action Committee include: Bill Sandbothe, Chairman; Craig Shriver, Vice Chairman; Jordan S, Secretary; Patty Rogers, Extension Council representative; Julie Phippen, Fairboard Representative; Patti Amos, Tracy Marshall, Corey Stephenson, Jackie Wickey, Kaylee J, Drew L, Nicole O, Amanda P, Erick S and Emily U.



4-H Volleyball Tournament Sunday, January 13, 2008



- Clubs must enter by **January 2ND** and name their team captain. Clubs may enter two teams.
- Team members are encouraged to be from one club. If a club does not have members in a certain age group, 4-H'ers from another club may play on the team. A player may play on **one team only**.
- Teams must have three adult leaders or parents of 4-H'ers, three senior/ intermediate 4-H members (7-12 grade) and three junior 4-H members (3-6 grade).
- Each team **MUST** play nine players at all times.
- Modified High School Girls Volleyball rules will apply. We will play Rally Scoring to 21 points.
- There is no maximum number of players per team.
- Players must rotate by substituting one adult for another adult, one junior for another junior, etc. Every person who plays **must** serve. Players must alternate by age group when possible.
- Captain is responsible for rotation. Additional information and a schedule will be sent to captains after January 2ND.



4-H Share – The- Fun Entry Form

Complete this form and return to
Cass County Extension Office by **February 1, 2008** with \$5 entry fee

Name of Club _____

Name of Act _____ Type of Act _____
(Skit, Dance, Song, Etc.)

Contact Person _____ Telephone Number _____

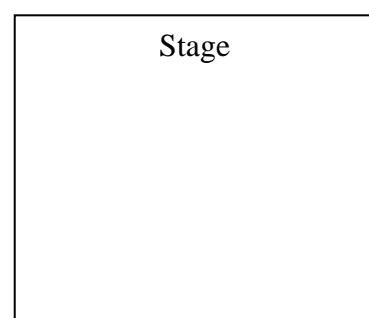
Please Print 4-H Participant Names & Grade

Performing Preference _____ Eligible for State Fair _____ Yes _____ No
(First, Middle, Last, No Preference) To be eligible for State Fair, 4-H'er must be in 5th grade or above.
If the entire club is participating, 80% of the club must be in grade 5 or above.

What Equipment will you need? How many of each?
_____ Piano _____ Chair(s) _____ Mic(s)
_____ Table(s) _____ Other _____

Audience

Will you have a cassette: _____ Yes _____ No?
Will you have a CD: _____ Yes _____ No



This is a diagram of our stage. Utilizing the symbols, please draw in equipment as it will be placed for your performance. **This is very important.**

x = mic P=Piano o = chair = Long Table

Visit the Cass County Website at www.extension.iastate.edu/cass