

January/February 2010



Clay County 4-H Motivator



News From The CYC

Happy Winter everyone. I am excited to start a new 4-H year. You will notice some changes in the Extension office this year. We're trying new ways to deliver information and programming. If you have any suggestions or ideas for programming please contact our office. We would love to hear suggestions from leaders, committee members and 4-Hers. Please visit our website often for upcoming events.

Our Clover Challenge kicks off this month. We are concentrating on the Environment Project Area. At the Extension we're "Going Green", by cutting paper waste and sending information electronically whenever we can. (Like the Motivator as an E-newsletter) We also recycle, shut off water while doing dishes and turn off lights when we leave a room. Thank you for helping us "Go Green"!

Anissa Jepsen, CYC



Motivator Goes Electronic

You'll notice a different look to your Motivator this month. It's our electronic version! Our conversion to the new 4-H enrollment system should be complete by March and then the Motivator's will be completely electronic.

The best way to access the links is at www.extension.iastate.edu/clay/info/newsletters.htm where the Motivator is posted on our website. If you do not have an email address please contact our office.



Become Our Friend on Facebook

Please check us out on Facebook. Search "ISU Clay" and become our friend. Keep up-to-date on all Extension activities, including 4-H!



Start the New Year By Setting Project Goals!

Now is the time to set your 4-H project goals. For more information on setting goals contact the Clay County Extension Office or look for the "4-H Goal Writing Worksheet" on the following website:
<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/clay/info/recordkeeping.htm>

State 4-H Scholarship Applications ~ Due February 1

Almost \$100,000 in scholarships will be awarded to Iowa 4-H members through the Iowa 4-H Foundation Scholarship programs. For more information, contact the Clay County Extension Office or visit the following web page: www.extension.iastate.edu/clay/info/4-H+Scholarships.htm.

Christina Hixson Award ~ Due February 1

The Hixson Opportunity Award is a grant of \$10,000 (\$2,500 per year for four years) to be used at Iowa State University. For application information contact your school guidance counselor or visit the following web site: <http://www.iastate.edu/~hixsonawards/>.

Nominations for Adult Awards ~ Due February 1

Now is your chance to nominate outstanding adult volunteers for various Clay County 4-H Adult Awards. Criteria and nomination forms may be picked up at the Extension Office or found on the following web page: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/clay/kidsteens.htm>.

"Iowa's Promise Youth" Grant ~ Due February 1

The Iowa Promise Youth grant is designed to encourage local youth groups in Iowa to partner with at least one other community group to plan and carry out a community service or improvement project. Information is available at: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/iowaspromise.html>.

2010 4-H Enrollments

January marks the start of the 4-H year in Clay County. Enrollment forms, Code of Ethics, and 4-H annual fees should to be turned into club leaders and not directly to the Extension Office. **Enrollments are due from club leaders to the Extension office on or before February 15.** Each 4-H club treasurer is asked to collect the annual fee of \$20 per member at the time of enrollment (or re-enrollment). Max Yield and Clay County Farm Bureau have offered to each pay \$10 of every 4-H member's annual fee who is registered by February 15th. Confidential requests for further assistance can be made through 4-H club leaders or the Clay County Extension Office. Each club will be billed after enrollments have been collected. Thank you Clay County Farm Bureau and Max Yield.

Junior Feeder Weigh-in ~ Saturday, March 13th, 9:00am - 12:00 (noon)

Any 4-H or FFA beef project member wishing to participate in the junior feeder program must attend the Weigh In on March 13th. **Youth may weigh-in two pens of three or four same sex calves per pen.** The weigh-in will be from 9:00 am-12:00 pm at the Spencer Livestock Sale Barn. Eartags will be \$1.50 a piece. For more information contact CC-E FFA Advisor, Betsy Brugman at 834-2227 or bbrugman@clay-everly.k12.ia.us or committee members. (*Snow Date: Saturday, March 20th – Listen to KICD*)

Shooting Sports Meeting

The Clay County Shooting Sports will be holding its next meeting on February 13th, 2:00 pm at the Grace United Methodist Church. For more information please contact Scott Grote at 712-260-5618.

New 4-H Member Meeting ~ February 18th 6:00pm

Please invite all new members in your clubs to the Clay County Extension Office to find out what 4-H is about. **To aid in the preparation of materials, we ask that you please RSVP by Friday, February 12th.** Simply call the Clay County Extension Office at 712- 262-2264. *Parents/guardians are welcome and encouraged to attend.*

2010 State Volunteers' Retreat ~ February 26 -27

This retreat brings together **4-H volunteers, staff, parents, and intermediate and senior 4-H members** to attend 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** and includes lunch and snacks.

This year's Retreat is hosted by DMACC Continuing Education, and sponsored by ISU Extension. For more information: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/Volunteers/retreat.htm>

Statewide Veterinary Medicine Workshop for 7th-12th Graders

If you are interested in finding out about careers in veterinary medicine, please attend this FREE workshop on February 27th, 2010 at the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine. Complete schedules and info is at

http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/Documents/Public2_10VetMedWorkshop.pdf or email cblake@iastate.edu.

Join the 4-H Youth Council ~ Applications Due March 1

High school 4-H members, now is your chance to apply for the Clay County 4-H Youth Council. Applications are available at the Clay County Extension Office or can be downloaded from the 4-H Youth Council web page: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/clay/info/youthcouncil.htm>

Attention: High School 4-H Members! ~ Area Recognition Opportunities

Take time to learn about the opportunities available to you beyond the county. Check out the following website: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/clay/info/Recognition.htm> or contact the Clay County Extension for more information. **Applications and support materials are due to the Clay County Extension Office before Tuesday, March 2, 2010.**

February/March Clover Challenge-Going Green

The first project area focus is Going Green and the Environment. This is a project area you're probably already involved in. For more ideas on how you can help the environment visit the state 4-H page

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/environment.htm>

For complete rules/info on the Clover Challenge visit:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/clay/info/cloverchallenge.htm>

Challenges for this month are:

1. Create recycling center for home, work or school.
2. Find 3 ways to conserve energy around your home, work or school and implement them.
3. Clean up a public space.

Submit your completed challenges to: <http://bdalager.wufoo.com/forms/clover-challenge-entry-form/>

2010 Calendar of Events (Dates Subject to Change)

February 15	4-H club members, leaders, committee enrollments due
February 18	New Member Meeting, 6:00pm
March 15	4-H fee due from club treasurers to Extension Office
April 5	Clay County 4-H Family Awards Program, 6:00pm
TBD	Food Safety Quality Assurance certification
April 29	4-H Club Leader Meeting
May 10	Enrollments, project changes and 4-H Fees due
May 10	Animal I.D. forms due: breeding beef, dog, horse, rabbit, and poultry
TBD	Food Safety Quality Assurance certification
June 2	Market Sheep Weigh-In (County)
June 6	Dog Obedience Class Initial Meeting
June 8	Market, Derby & Commercial Gilt Swine Weigh-In (County)
June 9	Meat Goat Weigh-in (County)
June 10	Prospect calf, and Clay County Fair purebred swine and breeding ewes IDs due
June 16	Communications Day, Clothing Selection and Fashion Review Style Show
June 29- July 1	2010 IA 4-H Youth Conference & Roundup
July 1	Iowa State Fair entries due
July 14	Exhibit Help Day
July 20	Achievement Day, Consumer Judging
July 31	Clay County Fair entries due to club leaders
July 25	Junior rabbit I.D. forms due
August 12-22	Iowa State Fair
September 11-19	Clay County Fair