

March 2009



Clay County 4-H Motivator



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Congratulations to **Lauren Schwarck**, Meadow Busy Bees, for being the first person to send an email message with the correct answer to the trivia question in January/February's 4-H Motivator.

Be the first person to email kday@iastate.edu with the correct answer to the trivia question in this month's 4-H Motivator and win a PRIZE!

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

New Staff - Clay County Extension Office

Please help us welcome our new staff members to the Clay County Extension Office – Anissa Jepsen, Office Assistance, and Jo Engel, Program Coordinator.

“Hi, my name is Anissa Jepsen; I am pleased to be the new Office Assistant at the ISU Extension, Clay County Office. I have worked in Office Administration for the past fifteen years and look forward to new challenges and experiences here in Clay County! I live in Terril with my husband, Shane and our three children. Brittney is a college sophomore, Taylor a junior in high school and Kyler is an 8th grader. I spend most of my free time as head chauffer and scheduler for the children, who are involved in 4-H, FFA, and various sports. I also enjoy cooking, scrapbooking and reading.”



Jo and her husband, Kent, live in the Everly area where the couple's 2 children, Shara and Jared, graduated from Clay Central – Everly. Kent is employed at Green Plains Grain, LLC and is the Location Manager in Greenville. Jo is thrilled to be on staff. She is looking forward to meeting all of you and gleaning any ideas you have about new youth programs.

Check out the “Youth Workshop” registration form inserted in the Motivator detailing the 7 workshops Jo has scheduled throughout March and April!

Clay County 4-H Fee ~ March 15 deadline

A small portion of the 4-H program cost is assessed directly to the 4-Hers who benefit. MaxYield Cooperative is donating \$10 of each member's \$30 annual fee for those who completed enrollments by February 15. Each 4-H club treasurer has been asked to collect the 4-H fee at the time of enrollment (or re-enrollment). 4-H club fees will be due from club treasurers to the Extension Office by **March 15, 2009**. Youth can still continue to join 4-H. New enrollments should be submitted directly to the Extension Office.

State Fair Swine Verification ~ Intent to Participate due March 20

ALL swine (derby, market, **and BREEDING**) must attend a regional verification site from April 25th thru May 2nd. All pigs will be tagged, tattooed, notches recorded and DNA samples taken. During a regional verification is the only time pigs can be nominated for the State Fair.

Clay County will host a regional swine verification site in the Swine Barn on the Clay County Fairgrounds, **Wednesday, April 29th** from 5:00-6:30 pm.



4-Hers interested in verifying swine projects for the Iowa State Fair must complete and submit an "Intent to Participate" form to the State 4-H Office by March 20th. Intent to participate forms can be found at: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/Agriculture/livestockhandbookSwine.htm>

Clay County 4-H Awards Program

All 4-H members and families, 4-H club leaders, committee members, and friends of 4-H are welcome and encouraged to attend our Clay County 4-H Awards Event Sunday, March 29th 2:00pm to 4:00pm at the 4-H Auditorium on the Clay County Fairgrounds. Plan to come and help give the well-deserved recognition to youth and adult volunteers, and witness the installation of the new Youth Council.

Ice Cream Social – 1:45pm

Arrive a few minutes early and join the fun of an ice cream social hosted by the Clay County 4-H Youth Council! Enjoy ice cream with toppings and rekindle connections with 4-H families from throughout the county. *Free will donations will go to the 2009 Youth Council Scholarship fund.*



2009 Food Safety Quality Assurance Training

All 4-H beef, poultry, meat goat, rabbit, sheep, and swine project members must have FSQA certification to exhibit at State or any county fair. Everyone has a role in the food safety chain. From producers to consumers it is important for everyone to understand their role in keeping food safe for consumption. FSQA is a quality assurance program designed to help 4-H animal and livestock project members understand their part in the production chain and ultimately produce a quality and safe food.

Food Safety Quality Assurance (FSQA) training sessions are planned for **Tuesday, April 14th, Thursday April 16th, Tuesday, May 12th, or Thursday, May 14th from 5:30-7:30pm**. Any age 4-H or FFA member can obtain certification at these meeting. Youth only need to attend one session to become FSQA certified. All sessions will be held at the Clay County Extension Office. **All FSQA trainings will include specific information for large animals (swine, beef, meat goats, and sheep) and small animals (poultry, rabbits).** Youth may obtain FSQA certification for all species by attending any training session.

For Information about the FSQA program and certification log on to the following website:

<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/clay/info/FSQA+Certification.htm>. **Pre-registration is required two day in advance for all trainings. Contact the Clay County Extension office at 712-262-2264.**

Additional FSQA Training dates from across the state are listed on the Iowa Pork Industry Center's FSQA web site: <http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/FSQA09.html>



Food Safety Quality Assurance Certification Options

Youth ages 11 and younger on January 1 must attend training. (Training certification is good for one year)
Youth ages 12-14 on January 1 may: attend a training every year (training certification is good for one year) or test out (test out certification is good until age 15)

Youth ages 15-18 on January 1 may: attending a training every year (training certification is good for one year) or test out (test out certification is good until age 19)

Clay County 4-H members may set up appointments to take the FSQA test at the Clay County Extension Office. Simply call 262-2264 or email kday@iastate.edu to set up an appointment after April 1st.



Hoover Uncommon Student Award ~ Application Deadline March 31

Now is the time to apply for the 2009 Herbert Hoover Uncommon Student Award, a \$5,000 scholarship program for Iowa high school juniors. Students are not evaluated on the basis of grades, test scores, essays, or financial need. Applicants submit a proposal for a goal they want to accomplish. Approximately 15 students are selected each year on the basis of their stated project goal and detailed plans to reach that goal.

The postmark deadline is March 31, 2009. For more information, contact Patricia Hand: 800-828-0475 or scholarship@hooverassociation.org, visit www.hooverassociation.org, or your high school guidance counselor. The award is sponsored by the Hoover Presidential Library Association, a nonprofit support group for the Hoover Presidential Library-Museum and National Historic Site in West Branch.



Hy-Line Layer Class ~ Sign-up for Chicks by April 1

The 4-H Poultry Committee in collaboration with Hy-Line North America, LLC will offer a layer class. 4-H poultry project members who wish to compete in the class will be given 15 chicks on Friday, April 24th. Hy-Line North America, LLC will arrange for a group hatch and are donating the 15 chicks per participant.



Interested poultry project members need to stop in the Clay County Extension Office, 110 W. 4th Street, Spencer, or call 712-262-2264 to sign-up for the free Hy-Line chicks. **Sign-up deadline is April 1st.**

Project members should include Hy-Line layers on poultry identification forms and have them on file at the Clay County Extension Office by May 10. At fair entry time each exhibitor will be allowed to enter two pens of three layers. Judging criteria for the layer class will include: quality and uniformity of birds and exhibitors knowledge of commercial layer production (i.e. birds, eggs, nutrition, environment, etc.)



Order your turkeys or ducks ~ Sign-up by April 1

Are you interested in purchasing turkeys or ducks?

Please call the Clay County Extension Office, 262-2264, by **April 1st** – Poultry Committee member, Janel Maurer, will place a group order thru Bomgaars.

We have to have a minimum order of 15 birds before we can place an order. This would make a great project for you to exhibit at the Clay County Fair.

Please call soon to get your order placed in time.



Verdict Favors Extension

The mission of the Iowa 4-H Youth Development Program is to empower youth to reach their full potential working and learning in partnership with caring adults. This mission is the basis from which program policy and practices must stem.

Violation of 4-H policies is taken seriously. Recently an infraction occurred for which the Clay County Extension Council deemed necessary to take action to uphold the integrity of our county 4-H program. A small claims court case resulted with a verdict favoring Clay County Extension.

4-H youth programs address the needs of young people by focusing the essential elements of positive youth development programming. It is important for all volunteers, youth, and staff to practice ethical conduct and uphold 4-H philosophy in order to provide positive youth development experiences for all 4-H members.

ISU Shadow Days

The College of Agriculture & Life Sciences would like to invite high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors to experience a day in the life of a college student. Shadow Days is hosted by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Ambassadors and will take place on **April 5th and 6th**. This event is a perfect opportunity for any student with an interest in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences majors at Iowa State. For more information please visit www.extension.iastate.edu/clay/kidsteens.htm.



4-Hers for 4-H Campaign

Every year the State 4-H Council sponsors the 4-Hers for 4-H Campaign. This campaign raises money to be used throughout the state to help with things like financial assistance, intermediate 4-H programs, and improvements at the 4-H camping center. The money donated by 4-Hers stays in Iowa to help other youth. Iowa 4-Hers donate more money to their 4-H youth program than any other state in the nation. The theme this year is *Giving Green to Achieve Your Dreams* and the campaign goal is \$30,000. The State 4-H Council is asking each 4-H club to help achieve this goal by donating **\$2.50** per member. The money raised from this campaign will be used to:

- Provide financial assistance for youth participants to attend the Iowa 4-H Youth Conference and summer 4-H camps.
- To assist 4-H families who need help paying the 4-H program fees.
- To support dances, speakers, and exciting learning opportunities at the Iowa Youth Conference.
- To fund intermediate 4-H youth activities in our area.
- To promote the Iowa 4-H Youth Program statewide.

All clubs meeting the \$2.50 per member goal will receive a special campaign certificate. Top contributing counties and areas will be recognized at the Iowa 4-H Youth Conference in June. The campaign begins March 1st and all contributions must be turned into the Extension office by May 15th. Thank you for your participation and continuing support of the 4-H program in Iowa!

Iowa Horse Fair

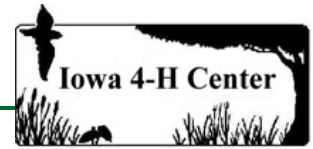


April 4-5, 2009, Iowa State Fairgrounds, Des Moines, Iowa

Sponsored by the Iowa Horse Council and in part by Nutrena and Purina

Contact Harold Ault: email iowahorsefair@hotmail.com or phone: 515-232-1611

For more information check out the Iowa Horse Council web site:
<http://www.iowahorsecouncil.org/hf.htm>



2009 Summer Camps at the Iowa 4-H Center

Iowa 4-H is a youth development program with a century of experience fostering positive life skills in Iowa youth. At the Iowa 4-H Center every camper has the opportunity to participate in experiences that strengthen their sense of belonging, independence, generosity, and mastery. Iowa 4-H follows the principals of experiential learning, and draws on the knowledge base of Iowa State University and other institutions of higher education in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture. The Iowa 4-H Center website now has a complete list of 2009 summer camp open to youth ages 7 and older: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4hcenter/summercamp/index.php>

2009 4-H Motivator Contest

Be the first 4-H member to email kday@iastate.edu and answer the trivia question in the Motivator correctly. *The answer to the monthly trivia question will be found in the Motivator.* Winners may stop by the Extension Office and select from a variety of prizes. A new winner will be selected each month. **4-H'ers will be eligible to win only once in 2009.**

March's Trivia Question: When is Clay County offering Food Safety Quality Assurance Training?

Calendar of Events

All meetings will be held at the Clay County Extension Office, 110 W. 4th Street, Suite 100, Spencer, unless noted otherwise
Clay County Extension Office hours are 8:00am to 4:30pm each weekday.

March 14	(Saturday)	Beginners Sewing Workshop, 10:00am-noon
March 15	(Sunday)	Clay County 4-H Fee due from club treasurers to Extension Office
March 17	(Tuesday)	Growing Green in the Garden Workshop 6:00-7:30pm
March 20	(Friday)	Swine Intent to Participate forms due to State 4-H Office
March 28	(Saturday)	Fantastic Photography Workshop, 10:00am-noon
March 29	(Sunday)	Ice Cream Social, 4-H Auditorium, Clay County Fairgrounds, 1:45pm
March 29	(Sunday)	Clay County 4-H Awards Event, 4-H Auditorium, Fairgrounds, 2:00-4:00pm
March 31	(Tuesday)	Hoover Uncommon Student Award Applications due
March 31	(Tuesday)	Beginners Woodworking Workshop, 6:00-7:30pm
April 1	(Wednesday)	Deadline to sign-up for Hy-Line Layers, Turkeys, and/or Ducks
April 4 & 5	(Sat.- Sun.)	Iowa Horse Fair, Iowa State Fairgrounds, Des Moines, IA
April 9	(Thursday)	Building Bridges Workshop, 6:00-7:30pm
April 13	(Monday)	Consumer Savvy Workshop, 6:00-7:30pm
April 14	(Tuesday)	FSQA Training, 5:30-7:30pm
April 16	(Thursday)	FSQA Training, 5:30-7:30pm
April 25	(Saturday)	Bicycle Extravaganza Workshop, 10:00-noon
May 12	(Tuesday)	FSQA Training, 5:30-7:30pm
May 14	(Thursday)	FSQA Training, 5:30-7:30pm