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IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Cerro Gordo County
2023 S. Federal Ave.
Mason City, IA 50401-6795
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IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY University Extension

Cerro Gordo County
2023 South Federal Avenue
Mason City IA 50401
641.423.0844
FAX: 641.423.2642
E-mail: xcerrogordo@iastate.edu



4-H is part of the Iowa
State University
Extension Service
bringing research based
education and
information to the
citizens of Iowa in the
areas of agriculture and
natural resources,
families, youth,
communities, and
business and industry.

Dates to Remember

March 1	4-H Intermediate Council (1:00-3:00 pm) LC
March 3	Shooting Sports Workshop II (6:00 pm) VGC
March 6	Lock-In registration due
March 7	FSQA training (9:00 am-1:00 pm) NIACC
March 12	4-H Youth Committee Training (6:00 pm) EO
March 16	Communications Workshop Sign Up Due
March 19	Communications Workshop (6:00 pm) LC
March 20	State Fair Intent to Participate (Swine) due
March 20-21	5 County Intermediate Lock-In, YMCA
March 27-29	Shooting Sport Volunteer Training, Madrid
March 31	Shooting Sport Leader Meeting (7:00 pm) EO
April 1	County Scholarship application due
April 4	County Swine Weigh In (9:00-12:00 pm) WF
April 15	SpringFest Entries due (4:30 pm) EO
April 18	SpringFest (Share the Fun, Comm) NIACC
April 25	State Swine Weigh In (9:00-12:00 pm) FG
April 30	Club Leader Meeting (6:00 pm) EO
May 1	Teen Council application due
May 1	County Lamb Weigh In (5:00-7:00 pm) FG

EO=Extension Office LC=Learning Center
FG=Fairgrounds VGC=Ventura Gun Club
WF=West Fork, Rockwell

FOOD SAFETY QUALITY ASSURANCE

Many of you received a postcard in the mail about FSQA training in March. **If you will have 4-H projects in rabbit, poultry, (including the poultry challenge), beef, sheep, goat, swine, or dairy you need to be FSQA certified.** On Saturday, March 7 the following workshops will be offered at NIACC. These are open to all 4-H members and families.

9AM-10AM

- **Swine Workshop** (for all swine project members)-Dean Weber & Larry Eichmeier (Careers Building room 110)
- **Basic Bunny Workshop**(for beginner 4-Her's and families interested in starting rabbit projects)-Theresa Reiter (Careers Building room 106)

10:15AM-11:45AM

- **FSQA training** for 4-H members enrolled in livestock (4th grade and up)-Dean Weber and Larry Eichmeier (Careers Building room 107/109)
- **Horse Project Q and A session** (for beginner 4-Her's and families interested in horse project)-Bits and Spurs (Careers Building room 100)
- **FSQA testing** for 4-Her's 12 years old and up- Extension Office Staff (Careers Building room 105)

12:00 PM-1:00 PM

- **Beef Workshop** Basic Care and Nutrition (for all 4-H members interested in beef project)-Larry Eichmeier (Careers Building room 107/109)
- **Advanced Rabbit Workshop**(4-H members involved in rabbit project)-Theresa Reiter (Careers Building room 106)

**Bits and Spurs 4-H members will be on hand to sell homemade goodies and drinks!
Bring some change with you!**

FSQA TRAINING CONT'D

FSQA training is required for all 4-Her's exhibiting livestock at county or state fair. Those 4-Her's who have turned 12 before 12-31-08 may opt to test out instead of attending training. Testing may be given at the FSQA training day on March 7, or at the Extension Office, please call ahead.

If your 4-Her needs FSQA training (under 12 on 12-31-08) and you are unable to attend on March 7, there will be a training on March 16 at 7pm at the Hampton State Bank, across from Bredeaux Pisa in Hampton. Please make sure to clearly mark Cerro Gordo County on your training form, so all paperwork is completed correctly.

Clover Kids **do not** need FSQA, but may attend workshops with parental guidance.

If March 7 and 16 do not work for your family, call the Extension Office ASAP for other counties dates.

POULTRY CHALLENGE!

The poultry challenge is returning this year! Call the Extension Office to sign up or for more info. You will need to attend FSQA. **Poultry challenge participants need to sign up by April 10, so we can order chicks.**

DRILL TEAM

Several members of the CC Riders Horse Club would like to start a county wide drill team to practice and perform at the North Iowa Fair. Call the Extension Office if you are interested in participating.

RABBIT PROJECT

There have been many requests from 4-H families for a workshop on bunny selection for new rabbit project members. Don't miss the workshop on March 7 at 9AM if you are interested in purchasing a rabbit or starting a rabbit project.



SHOOTING SPORTS UPDATE

We had 16 4-H members from Cerro Gordo County attend the February workshop. They learned about gun safety, types of shotguns, and cleaned shotguns. The next workshop will be held on March 3, and is open to all 4-H members (4th grade and up) who are interested in Shooting Sports.

Additionally, we have six adults going to Shooting Sports training at the end of March in Madrid, Iowa. We will have two trained in shotgun, two in archery, one in rifle, and one coordinator after the training is completed!

On March 31 at 7pm we will hold a meeting at the Extension Office for all Shooting Sports volunteers and interested adults to brainstorm ways to grow our Shooting Sports program. Feel free to attend if you are interested in helping.



SWINE WEIGH IN

The Swine Advisory Committee met on February 24th and wanted me to pass along some changes to swine families. The swine weigh in will be held in Rockwell on April 4 from 9AM-12PM, same location as previous years. This will be for derby pigs only. Market and breeding pigs will need to be identified by ear notches only by May 15.

YOUTH COMMITTEE UPDATES

The 4-H Youth Development Committee met in February and decided against pursuing a ribbon auction for the 2009 fair. There will be a NEW Premier Exhibitor contest at the fair this year, details to come.

SPRING FEST

The SpringFest Communications and Challenge Class Fairbook division is included with this newsletter. Use the month of March to plan your Communications exhibit. Entry forms will be included in the April newsletter. There will be no pre-entry required for Challenge Classes. All Challenge Class entries will be accepted at 9AM on April 18.

INTERESTED IN COMMUNICATIONS BUT DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START?

Come to the Communications Workshop on March 19th, 6pm at the Learning Center. We will cover the basic elements of Educational Presentations, Working Exhibits, and the county speaking class, great for first time communications participants. Please call the Extension Office by March 16 to register.



On February 21, 2009 4-H members from Bits and Spurs and C.C. Riders went to the 4-H/FFA Horse Judging Clinic at Kirkwood College Equine Center. They had clinics on judging and judged in Halter, Showmanship, Western Pleasure, Horsemanship, English Hunter under Saddle and English Equitation. Congratulations to the members of Team C.C. and Spurs (Kaitlyn Canedo, Courtney Teeter, Erin Patchen, Dylana Luett) for placing 3rd and received a bucket full of prizes. Congratulations also to Team Clear Lake Cowgirls (Hannah Lorenzen, Becca Nelson, Shana Woods, Erika Bangs) who placed 5th.

Dear 4-H members, families, and leaders,

We have a lot of important 4-H dates coming up. Make sure you get them on your calendar!

I'm also really excited to present our SpringFest FairBook and challenge classes. Get ready to decorate some fun cakes! Remember, this event replaces our annual communications day. So if you think that you may like to be selected for State Fair in communications, get your communications act ready!

Alison Roe

County Youth Coordinator
aroe@iastate.edu

COUNTY SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP

Seniors, you should have received a county 4-H scholarship application in the mail. If you did not receive one, call the Extension Office or download one off the website. Applications are due to the Extension Office on April 1st.

FAIR UPDATES

4-H families who wish to camp at the fairgrounds will be able to do so at no charge this year. Arrangements must be made through the fair office, first come first served. They have made some changes regarding camping areas, so it might be a good idea to check with them soon.

The fair office has lined up some really great entertainment for the week of fair. Jamey Johnson, Jerrod Nieman, Jason Michael Carroll will all be performing, and there will also be chuckwagon races, motocross, and a rodeo. If your family would like to purchase a pass for these events contact the fair office. You can also receive a free pass for every 20 sold. If you, or your 4-H club are interested in selling passes call the fairgrounds at 423-3811.

STATE SUMMER CAMPS

The Iowa 4-H Center has a ton of summer camps for everyone, including family camps! FYI: You do not have to be a 4-H member to enroll, so ask your friends to come along! There are camps ranging from photography to grossology to Un-Camp! Check them out! There is financial assistance available for campers. Please check out this website for more info on camp.
<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4hcenter/summercamp>



4-H T-SHIRTS ON SALE

As some of you have heard, the Iowa 4-H program will soon have a new logo available for T-Shirts. We have numerous T-Shirts available in the Extension Office with the current logo on them. We will sell these shirts for a bargain price of \$4 each to anyone that would like them. Stop in and pick one up today!

TEEN COUNCIL APPLICATIONS

Applications were mailed to 4-Hers in grades 9-11 for next year's Teen Council. Teen Council is a great way to explore leadership in 4-H. Teen Council members plan county events, and have a lot of fun. In fact, our Teen Council just returned from a Ski Trip to Afton Alps. Current 9th Grade Intermediate Council members will need to fill out the application form, but will not need to interview with the Youth Development Committee.

CONGRATS, INVENT IOWA KIDS

Cerro Gordo 4-H was well represented at the Invent Iowa Regional Competition. Ryan Wendel, Ty Kral, Jordan Johanns, Haley Kavaya, Brooke Greenwood and Kacy Sampson all had inventions selected for regionals. Bring them all to fair!