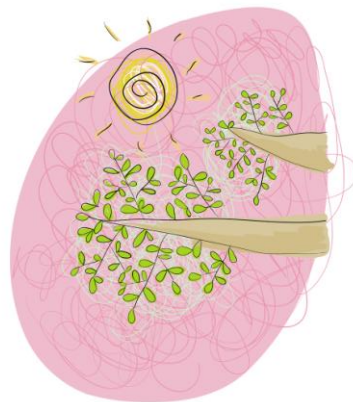


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4-H is part of the Iowa
State University
Extension Service
bringing research based
education and
information to the citizens
of Iowa in the areas of
agriculture and natural
resources, families, youth,
communities, and
business and industry.



Dates to Remember

March 27-29	Shooting Sport Volunteer Training, Madrid
March 31	Dog Project Meeting (6:00 pm) LC
March 31	Shooting Sport Leader Meeting (7:00 pm) EO
April 1	County Scholarships due (4:30 pm) EO
April 3	Rabbit Project Meeting (6:00 pm) EO
April 4	County Swine Weigh In (9:00-12:00 pm) WF
April 4	Junior Calf Clinic (12:00-3:00 pm) WCF
April 7	Shooting Sports (6:00 pm) VGC
April 13	Youth Committee Meeting (6:00 pm) EO
April 14	Communications Workshop (6:00 pm) LC
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
May 7	FSQA (5:00-7:00 pm) LC
May 15	Animal ID's due (4:30 pm) EO

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

FOOD SAFETY QUALITY ASSURANCE

Over 30 4-Her's were certified in FSQA on March 7 at NIACC. Thanks to Dean Weber and Larry Eichmeier for all their hard work! A handful of 4-Her's were also certified in Hampton in March.

If your FSQA will expire this year, you will receive a postcard in the mail soon. If you are 12 (before January 1, 2009) or older, call the Extension Office to schedule a testing.

If you are not 12 yet, or do not want to test, we will be offering a "last chance" FSQA training on May 7th, 5-7 pm at the Learning Center. If this date does not work for your family, you are responsible for calling the Extension Office and locating an alternate training.

Those 4-Her's who are new to livestock or FSQA **will not** be receiving a card in the mail, it is your responsibility to determine if FSQA is needed for your project. Rabbit, swine, beef, sheep, goat, and poultry all require fsqa certification to be shown at fair. Call the Extension Office with questions.



POULTRY CHALLENGE!

The poultry challenge is returning this year!

You will need to complete FSQA.

Poultry challenge participants need to sign up by April 10, so we can order chicks.

If you want to participate, you need to call and register! Open to Clover Kids too!

JUNIOR CALF CLINIC

The clinic will be held at the Worth County Fairgrounds on April 4th from noon until 3pm. Free lunch will be provided. All 3rd through 6th graders are invited to learn about health, nutrition, grooming, and showmanship.

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 April 3rd, 6pm at the Extension Office if you are interested in purchasing a rabbit or starting a rabbit project. Already participating in rabbit project? Come at 7pm with questions if you have them. Clover Kids welcome!

DOG PROJECT MEETING

There will be a meeting on March 31st, 6pm at the Learning Center for 4-Her's enrolled in Dog project, or any 4-Her's (4th grade and up) who are interested in dog project. There will be sign up available for dog obedience classes taught by Nancy Levenhagen. There is a charge for these (optional) classes. Sorry, no doggies at the first meeting!

ANIMAL ID'S DUE MAY 15!

4-H Livestock Identification reports (animal Id's) are due in the Extension Office by May 15 at 4:30 pm. Since this is a state deadline, there are **no exceptions** to this date. Livestock that require Id's include: Dog, Horse, Beef, Dairy Cattle, Bucket Bottle, Swine, Sheep, and Meat and Dairy Goat. If your animal has or will be weighed in prior to May 15th, no other ID is needed for that animal.

Id forms are available online on the Extension website, from your club leader, or in triplicate at the Extension Office. Call with questions before the May 15th deadline or you will not be allowed to show at the North Iowa or State Fair.

SPRING FEST

Your SpringFest Communication entry form is included with this newsletter. Entries are due by 4:30 pm on April 15th. Remember, Cerro Gordo County is allotted 6 slots for presentations, 4 for working exhibits, and 2 for extemp. speaking at state fair. Let's fill them up this year!

You do not need to pre-enter Challenge Classes, but feel free to check them off if you plan to bring them, so we can plan for table space.

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

We have re-scheduled the Communications Workshop for Wednesday, April 14th 6pm at the Learning Center. Call the Extension Office by April 12 to register. We will be working on make-and-take presentations and county classes. This is a great way to get started in Communications! Leave with a presentation all ready to go!

JUNIOR MASTER GARDENER'S

The Junior Master Gardener 4-H club made fleece blankets in March to donate to area groups. Fleece was donated by Wal-Mart in Mason City for the group's first service project. The JMG's tied 8 blankets! Good job guys!



SHOOTING SPORTS UPDATE



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.

For those shooting sports 4-H members who have been attending the shotgun workshops, the first shoot night will be April 7th at 6pm. Please bring along eye protection, ear plugs, and a vest or pouch to wear while shooting. More information will be mailed to families who have attended shoot nights with prices for the shooting, and other details soon.

4-H T-SHIRTS

It's official – Iowa has a new design for a 4-H t-shirt! At this time they may be ordered only through Competitive Edge in Des Moines. A website has been developed for ease of ordering: <http://iowa4h.compet.com/>. If you have questions about this new option, call 1-800-458-3343 and ask for the IOWA 4-H Online Store Help Desk.

Like the new look but still prefer your own club shirt? No problem! 4-H Clubs are still able to design their own 4-H t-shirt. Clubs who choose this option must have the screen print approved by the Extension Office. We simply want to ensure proper usage of the 4-H emblem.



Dear 4-H members, families, and leaders,

Now is the time to get those communication's acts ready! We need to fill up our county slots at State Fair, and give our 4-Her's a chance to earn some premiums!

Also, get your calendar marked to get your livestock Id's in to the Extension Office. We have to have these on time!

If you have ideas for workshops you would like held in our county, call and let us know! We would love to offer more opportunities for our 4-Her's.

Alison Roe

County Youth Coordinator
aroe@iastate.edu

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

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-Her's 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. Applications are due on May 1.

IOWA 4-H YOUTH CONFERENCE

Every June, over 1000 teenagers converge on the campus of Iowa State University for 3 days full of speakers, workshops, mixers, dances, a banquet, and community service activities. If you've completed 8th grade, you're eligible to attend. You don't even have to be in 4-H! So invite a friend, experience campus life, and meet new people from across the state! You will be having fun while learning by doing, dancing the nights away, and serving the community. You will get to learn new things to take back to your community and school, and in the process you might even discover something new about yourself! There are opportunities for you to share your talents with the rest of the delegation through small group discussion, the Conference Chorus, and a Talent Show!

If you have a specific interest in either animal science or crop production, you might want to look into becoming part of the ROUND-UP or CSI: Crops tracks!

Join us in June for the most incredible three days of your life at the Iowa 4-H Youth Conference! Cost for Cerro Gordo County 4-H'ers is \$65 plus \$10 for a shirt (optional). The Cerro Gordo County 4-H Foundation will again be paying \$60 per participant.



Registration forms are available online at www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/StateConference or at the Extension Office. Registrations, code of conduct Forms, health forms, and registration fee are due by May 22 to the Extension Office.