



CL^{4-H}VERP^{4-H}WER



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Dear 4-H Families,

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During the month of September, we have gotten an avalanche of families interested in 4-H. For some, 4-H is a family tradition, in others this will be their family's first introduction to the program. While we are doing our best to welcome these new families, it will be their club meeting experience that will make the biggest impact on their initial reactions to 4-H. Please welcome new families to 4-H. Give them the knowledge you think is important for them to feel like they belong – you may even think back to your own first experience in 4-H and tell new members what you wish you would have known when you first started out, or provide them with the same mentoring that another member or leader provided you.

This is a new year, and we can use that feeling of renewal as an opportunity to expand our own 4-H experiences. Have you been interested in starting in a new project area, but would like to work with others in a project group? Have you considered applying for a county award, area trip, or some other greater role in 4-H? This could be your chance, invite other members to join you – don't be afraid to take the lead.

CY-FRIDAY AT POLK COUNTY EXTENSION

Phil Heckman



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach
Healthy People. Environments. Economies.

4-H
GROWING TOGETHER

1625 Adventureland Dr., Suite A, Altoona, IA | 515-957-5760 | Monday - Friday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

LEARN MORE AT WWW.EXTENSION.IASTATE.EDU/POLK/



LOCAL 4-H

Recognition

Congratulations to our 2011-2012 Intermediate and County Council Members! This year's Intermediate Councilors are: Jessica Altman, Jessica Bigelow, Anna Feldstein, Alek Gill, Ellen Sattler, and Maryah Wright.

This year's County Council includes: Matthew Curry, Sam Feldstein, Evan Fischer, Megan Hale, Amber Hammes, Adeline, Limmex, Elizabeth Macro, Erin McIlheren, Andrea Nelson, Justin Roepsch, Ryan Roepsch, Sarah Stewart, Michelle Temeyer, Emma

Thayer, Hannah Thayer, Tyler Ubben, Tayler Veldhuizen, Alisa White, and Maggie Zimmermann.



STATE 4-H NEWS

Make a Difference Day

Make a Difference Day 2011 Saturday, October 8th
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Iowa 4-H Center near Madrid

Want to spend some citizenship time with Mother Nature? Come for a day of volunteering to enhance the **Iowa 4-H Camping Center** near Madrid. 4-H clubs, families, friends, staff . . . everyone is invited to the camp on **Saturday, October 8 from 9:00-3:00** (or whatever part of the day you can volunteer).

Wear your grubby clothes and help make a difference by painting, staining buildings, chipping trails, taking down dead trees, stacking fire wood, taking inventory, and general cleaning tasks. Free morning refreshments for all

workers and a day of fun and nature await you! If you want to eat lunch at the camp bring a non-perishable sack lunch and beverage. Also extra tools are helpful (gloves, rakes, buckets, old rags, chainsaws, gardening tools, shop vacs, step ladders, wheel barrows, etc.) to keep all hands busy. Please label your tools. **Call 515-795-3338 to let us know you are going.** We want to have enough morning refreshments for all our hard workers!



MAKE A
DIFFERENCE DAY

NATIONAL 4-H NEWS

National 4-H Week

National 4-H Week is October 2-8, 2011. Your 4-H club may want to celebrate it by volunteering to speak at a business or community service organization about the 4-H program and what you have learned. Write a feature story about your club for the local newspaper, put up a 4-H display in a business, library, or school window, or invite prospective members to your next 4-H meeting.

Consider helping with the County-Wide Can Drive to raise 4-H awareness in your community!



Got Clover??

GOT CLOVER? October 2nd - 8th is National 4-H Week! To celebrate and promote how awesome 4-H is, we would like you to participate in our "wear a shirt, win a shirt" campaign! All club members are asked to wear your 4-H shirts on Tuesday, October 3rd. Use your shirt to start a conversation with your friends about what 4-H is, and why its great to belong to a club and invite them to your next club meeting. If you invite a friend, and they join your 4-H club, you and your friend will both receive a **FREE 4-H T-Shirt** for our "wear a shirt, win a shirt" campaign! Show you've Got Clover and promote 4-H!!

MISSION STATEMENT

4-H EMPOWERS YOUTH TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL WORKING



Enrolling On-Line

This year we will be using the on-line enrollment options for our 4-H database. This means that instead of a fistful of forms to fill out, you will be able to log into your families records and re-enroll your members for the new year. You will also be able to digitally sign your medical release and your transportation releases as well. If you have already begun the reenrollment process, you will need to submit a paper copy of the medical release as the system will not allow you to retroactively enter these fields in your submitted records. leader and you'll be signed up and ready to go for the

Once you have completed the online process you will need to coordinate payment of the \$30 annual fee with your club leader and you'll be signed up and ready to go for the new year. Financial aid is available to help defray the costs of the membership fee, for more information visit the Iowa 4-H Foundation website at www.iowa4hfoundation.org.

For questions or assistance about the online system, please contact Phil at 957-5771 or pheckman@iastate.edu, or Amy at 957-5763 or amarek@iastate.edu.



"Can" We Make a Difference? ... Of Course We

National Make a Difference Day is October 22nd this year, and once again we will use this opportunity to continue to perform an annual, county-wide, community service project. Continuing the tradition, we'll be doing our 3rd annual 4-H food drive to show just how big of a difference we can make. Last year we were able to donate more to donate to Polk County Food Shelters

as we "can" in advance of the Thanksgiving Season. Members "can" collect at school, ask their

We are looking for however you and your club feel that you "can" make the biggest difference. We will be collecting donations at the extension office, and making a display of just how big a difference Polk County 4-H "can" make!



Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair Association



The Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair Association will hold their Annual Meeting on Wednesday, October 19, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Polk County Extension Office. Directors for each of the four districts of the county and at large members will be elected for 3 year terms in accordance with the bylaws. Any registered voter in Polk County is

eligible to vote for Fair Board members. The Polk County Fair Board meeting and election of officers will follow at 7:30 p.m.

There are a number of open board positions, so if you are interested in holding a position on the Fair-board, please contact the nominating committee Chair, Mike Cory at 515-967-2040.

OUR VISION

A WORLD IN WHICH YOUTH AND ADULTS LEARN, GROW, AND WORK TOGETHER AS CATALYSTS FOR POSTIVE CHANGE



Officer Training

The Officer Training workshop will be held Thursday, November 10 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the Polk County Extension Office.

The workshop will include an overview of parliamentary procedure, working together as a group, and practicing the skills of their office. County Council will lead the workshop.

We will also be providing free pizza for all that attend!! In order to know how much pizza we'll need please pre-register by calling Phil at 957-5771.



County Awards Ceremony

Sunday, November 13th, 2011

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Polk County Extension Office

Join Polk County 4-H Families at this year's Annual Awards Ceremony! The awards ceremony is hosted by the 4-H Advisory Board.

Project, leadership, citizenship, and life skill award recipients will be announced. The County Council

and Intermediate Council will be inducted, and the banner clubs will be recognized. All Polk County 4-Hers are welcome and are encouraged to attend!



The County Wide Can Drive will still be going on at this time, so please feel free to drop off your donations that day.

Prudential Spirit of Community Awards

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards honor young people in middle level and high school grades for outstanding volunteer service to their communities. Created in 1995 by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), the awards constitute the United States' largest youth recognition program based solely on volunteering. Over the past 11 years, the program has honored more than 70,000 young volunteers at the local, state and national level.

Iowa 4-H has been well represented in this program, and each year several state award winners are Iowa 4-H members.

Plan now to nominate your top 4-H youth volunteers for The 2012 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards. Information and applications also are available at www.prudential.com/spirit or by calling 1-877-525-8491. Eligible 4-Hers in your county must complete their application forms by Nov. 1, 2011.



4-H PLEDGE

I PLEDGE MY HEAD TO CLEARER THINKING, MY HEART TO GREATER LOYALTY, MY HANDS TO LARGER SERVICE,
AND MY HEALTH TO BETTER LIVING, FOR MY CLUB, MY COMMUNITY, MY COUNTRY, AND MY WORLD.



Project Updates

ANIMALS

Beef Weigh-in

All market beef and junior feeders will be weighed in December 17, 2010 from 8:00 a.m. to noon. The weigh-in will take place in the Cattle Barn of the State Fairgrounds.

Each ear tag is \$2.00 to be paid at the weigh-in.

Be sure that you have proof of Country of Origin either by keeping accurate farm records of animals produced on your farm, or by getting an affidavit of origin from the producer from which the animal was bought. Polk County produced beef will also be identified at the weigh-in using the ear tag number and producer as part of the identification. To show in the Polk County Produced class at the Polk County Fair, the beef **must be born in Polk County.**

The Polk County weigh-in is also a State Fair and Ak-Sar-Ben verification site. If you are planning on showing market beef at the State Fair or Ak-Sar-Ben, you will also need to weigh-in on December 18 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Iowa State Fairgrounds. The cost is \$5.00 per head, per event. This will be in addition to the \$2.00 ear tag fee. The verification process for Iowa State Fair has changed this and will be done by retinal scanning. Ak-Sar-Ben verification will continue to rely on ear tagging, and hair collection for DNA analysis. 4-H'ers will need to complete and sign the verification form, which is similar to the current livestock ID sheet. Parents and members will be required to sign the form. If the parent or 4-H member is unable to attend the verification process, a Parental Waiver or Member

Waiver will need to be signed and brought to the weigh-in. Those waiver forms are available at the Extension Office. Animals will NOT be eligible to show at the State Fair unless all the forms are signed. Your signature tells us that you have looked over the information and it is correct and that you have reviewed the rules on the back of the sheet as well. It is your responsibility to read and check the information before you sign it. Additionally, State Fair Market Identifiers will need to log into 4-H online to verify the data after the weigh-in.

Any steers intending to show as a breed steer **must bring their sire** information to complete the verification form and have the registration tattoo in the animal's ear at verification time. 4-H'ers are limited to a maximum of six head to verify.

LIVESTOCK ID'S

All livestock ID's for breeding beef, horses, dairy, dairy goats, dogs, llamas, breeding sheep, and swine are due **May 15, 2012**. The ID's for market beef, market sheep and swine are brought to the office as soon as the weigh-ins are completed. Date from those weigh-in will be entered into 4-H online for you by the Extension office. You will be responsible for logging in and verifying that the data entered is correct. Non-Weigh In Species can be identified anytime between now and May 15th using the 4-H on-line system. **There will not be paper copies of those forms to turn it for this year.** Each 4-H member is responsible for enter-

ing their own ID's. Directions and help sheets on how to enter this information on-line are at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/enrollment/help.htm>.



4-H IS BASED ON RESEARCH



DATES TO REMEMBER

October

- 3 County Award Applications Due
- 2-8 National 4-H Week
- 8 Make a difference Day at State 4-H Camp
- 4 Intermediate Council Meeting 7-8:30 pm
- 4 4-H Program Advisory Board 7-8:30 pm
- 6 County Council Meeting 7-8:30 pm
- 6 4-H Find Out Night 6:30 pm
- 10 County Awards Interviews 5:00-9:00 pm
- 13 County Awards Interviews 5:00-9:00 pm
- 19 Annual Fair Board Meeting 7:00 pm
- 22 Make 'N Take for Clover Kids Leaders **ONLY**

November

- 1 Intermediate Council Meeting 7-8:30 pm
- 1 4-H Program Advisory Board 7-8:30 pm
- 2 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 10 Officer Training 6:30 pm
- 13 County Awards Ceremony 2:00 pm – Polk County Extension Office
- 16 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm
- 24-25 Office Closed

December

- 6 Intermediate Council Meeting 7-8:30 pm
- 7 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 21 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm
- 17 **Beef Weigh-In - 8:00 am – 11:00 am Iowa State Fairgrounds Cattle Barn**
- 23-26 Office Closed

January

- 2 Office Closed
- 3 Intermediate Council Meeting 7-8:30 pm
- 3 4-H Program Advisory Board 7-8:30 pm
- 4 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 12 New Families Workshop 6:30 pm
- 17 Office Closed
- 18 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm

February

- 1 **State Award Applications Due**
- 1 **Scholarship Applications Due**
- 1 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 7 Intermediate Council Meeting 7-8:30 pm
- 7 4-H Program Advisory Board 7-8:30 pm
- 15 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm
- 23 Spring Leader Training Meeting 1-3 pm or 6:30-8:30 pm

March

- 1 **Deadline for Financial aid for Camp from the 4-H Foundation**
- 6 Intermediate Council Meeting 7-8:30 pm
- 6 4-H Program Advisory Board 7-8:30 pm
- 7 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 8 New Families Workshop 6:30 pm
- 12 FSQA 6:00 – 8:00 pm
- 15 FSQA 6:00 – 8:00 pm

April

- 3 Intermediate Council Meeting 7-8:30 pm
- 3 4-H Program Advisory Board 7-8:30 pm

April (continued)

- 4 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 7 **Swine Weigh-In 8:00-11:00**
- 18 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm
- 26 Leader Meeting 1:00 – 3:00 pm
or 6:30 – 8:30 pm
- 29 **Deadline for Financial Aid for Conference from the 4-H Foundation**

May

- 1 Intermediate Council Meeting 7-8:30 pm
- 1 4-H Program Advisory Board 7-8:30 pm
- 2 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 5 **Sheep Weigh-In and Meat Goat Weigh-In**
- 10 New Families Workshop 6:30 pm
- 15 **Livestock ID's Due**
- 15 **Last Day to Enroll in 4-H**
- 15 **Polk County Fair King and Queen Applications Due**
- 16 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm
- 28 Office Closed

June

- 2 King/Queen Candidate Interviews
- 5 Intermediate Council Meeting 7-8:30 pm
- 5 4-H Program Advisory Board 7-8:30 pm
- 6 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 14 New Families Workshop 6:30 pm
- 20 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

FIND US AT: EXTENSION.IASTATE.EDU/4H/POLK



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Youth Development Specialist

Polk County 4-H Club Page

www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/club.htm

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