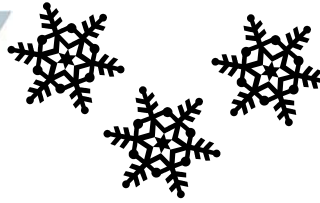
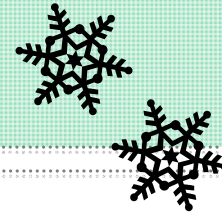




CL VER P WER



Phil Heckman
POLK COUNTY EXTENSION
County Youth Coordinator
phackman@iastate.edu
515-957-5771



Dear 4-H Families, Great Job with 4-H Online Enrollments!



WHAT'S INSIDE:

- 4-H Online Enrollments
- Recognition
- State Awards
- Annual 4-H Day at the ISU Women's Basketball Game
- 2012 Iowa 4-H Scholarships
- 2012 State Volunteer Retreat
- Upcoming Workshops
- Iowa 4-H Youth Conference 2012
- Llamas Are Making a Comeback
- Country of Origin Labeling Requirements
- Project Updates
- Dates to Remember

As of the writing of this article there are 366 4-H'ers enrolled in Polk County 4-H and there are 140 members whose enrollments are currently incomplete or pending. Assuming that all of the pending enrollments will be completed in the next few weeks we are still missing about 200 4-H'ers that we would expect to see for this year. Please take the time to complete your 4-H enrollments in the next few weeks, as they are vital to making sure that you are covered by 4-H Insurance during 4-H activities, and so that we can update our records for the new 4-H year and take 4-H'ers who have graduated, moved away, or outdated addresses off of the mailing list. In an effort to keep our mailing lists up to date, **this will be the last newsletter that you receive e-mail notification of if you have not turned in your enrollment.** Of course the most current version of the newsletter will always be available by visiting www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/cloverpower.htm

Enrollment forms need to be turned in with the membership fee. This year's fee is \$30. Scholarships are available for families that need assistance. To be a complete enrollment, we need the enrollment form (this is the part that can be done on-line), medical release form, and payment. If you would like to try the new on-line enrollment system you will find the log-in screen and directions for re-enrolling by visiting <http://iowa.4honline.com>. For questions or to request assistance, please contact Amy at 957-5763 or amarek@iastate.edu.

Phil Heckman



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

4-H
GROWING TOGETHER



LOCAL 4-H

Recognition

The County Awards Ceremony on November 13th was a rousing success with a packed room and over 100 door prizes donated by a wide array of local businesses. The Program Advisory Board awarded 54 Project Awards, 3 Citizenship Awards, 10 Leadership Awards, and 2 Peer Recognition awards. In addition to these awards they awarded 2 volunteer Service Citations. The following 4-H'ers and 4-H Volunteers were recognized.

Juniors: Mackenzie Adkins, Jessica Bigelow, Michael DeDecker, Hunter Dial, Ben Fagen, Anna Feldstein, A.J. Gill, Addison Hild, Rebecca Osthus, Eli Pasker, Victoria Purcell, Claire Rohlfson, Claire Sattler, Ellen Sattler, Josie Stewart, Antoinette Veldhuizen, Alex Vermillion, Katie Wyatt and Jakob Olesen.

Intermediates: Megan DeDecker, Lori Dvorak, Megan Hale, Sarah Hawkins, Marjorie Lagan, Lauren Nielsen,

Justin Roepsch, Nicole Stewart, Emma Thayer, & Zach Vermillion.

Seniors: Kolby Cook, Taylor Hawkins, Jenna Kasper, Joel Kaufman, Alyssa Pinkley, Lena Pinkley, Ryan Roepsch, Sarah Stewart, Hannah Thayer, Brett Timmins, and Tayler Veldhuizen.

Volunteers : Mary Ann Bane-Burrows, Ulrike Grimaldi, Rodney Hawkins, Kris Hoferman, Matthew Hoffman, LeAnn McCartan, Mary Kate Murphy, Jon Paulsen, Johnny Sattler, Ann VandeLune, Michele Vermillion, Tine Woods, Cindy Arbogast, Micholyn Fajen, Glen & Arlette Hollister, Kim Hood, Vanessa Macro, Monica May, Judy Nelson, Leesa Parkhill-Neiland, Dana Pinkley, Teresa Taylor, Cheryl Timmins, and Norm Veldhuizen.

STATE 4-H NEWS

State Awards

This past saw a new era in the state 4-H awards process. It is a much leaner, quicker, and simpler process than it has been in past years, and I would encourage senior 4-Hers eligible to apply to take advantage of this new process. All applications for state recognition opportunities will consist of a cover sheet, written answers (up to 2 pages) to a set of questions specific to the recognition opportunity, and up to 2 pages of support materials. These support materials are essentially summaries, 4-H "resumes", and pictures of your 4-H experience that can be taken directly from your 4-H record books. Many of these recognition opportunities are rewarded with \$100 savings bonds or out of state trips. Application materials

are available by visiting: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/teens/awards.htm>, and are due to the Extension Office by February 1st. If you have any questions about the new process, please feel free to contact Phil at 515-957-5771 or pheckman@iastate.edu



STATE 4-H NEWS

Annual 4-H Day at the ISU Women's Basketball Game

The Cyclones will tip off at 7pm against Texas A&M on January 14, 2012. A dinner tailgate will be provided from 4:30-7pm at the Scheman Building before tip off. This year's price to attend is \$20 per person. New for 2012 is a "4-H Leads to Careers" tour hosted by the College of Human Sciences. (limited to the first 300 who sign up). Gather your club members and get ready to have

some fun and cheer on the Cyclones. [Purchase tickets here.](#) Contact Shelly Greving at shellyg@iastate.edu or [\(515\) 294-1607](tel:5152941607).



MISSION STATEMENT

4-H EMPOWERS YOUTH TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL WORKING



2012 Iowa 4-H Scholarships Available

Are you a high school senior preparing to graduate in May? You have probably already started pursuing scholarship opportunities, but don't forget about the Iowa 4-H Scholarships that are available to you as a 4-H member! Check out this website to get proper forms and information: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/teens/scholarships>. Please remember that these applications need to be in the State 4-H Office by March 1st so they will need to arrive in the Polk County Office by Feb 27th if you would like us to forward them on for you otherwise you will need to arrange to get them to the state office by

March 1st. If your materials arrive at the Polk County Extension Office on March 1st, they will not make it to the State 4-H Office by the deadline. Please contact Phil at 957-5771 or pheckman@iastate.edu if you have any questions about the application process or if you would like assistance in preparing your application.



2012 State Volunteer Retreat

The 2012 State Volunteer Retreat, Keep Soaring With 4-H! Is scheduled for February 10 and 11.

This annual event brings together 4-H volunteers, staff, parents, and intermediate and senior 4-H members to network and participate in innovative programs that will help bring fresh perspectives and activities to Iowa 4-H programs. Friday evening workshops offer hands-on activities and resources to take back to use in your county and club. Workshops and networking fill the day on Saturday, February 12. A wide variety of workshop sessions will meet the needs of both new and experienced volunteers, staff, and 4-H members.

To access session descriptions and registration forms, go to <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/Volunteers/retreat.htm>

Are you a **NEW** Volunteer registering for the **New Volunteer (Club & Clovers) Training**? If so, your registration is **FREE!** There is limited space so sign up early and register online for the Ankeny New Volunteer training track.

A grant from Monsanto and National 4-H Council has reduced the cost this year. Early Bird registration is \$10.00

and ends with a postmark on or before January 20th. Late registration is \$15.00 and must be postmarked by January 27th. The registration fee covers sessions during the time you are registered, a snack on Friday evening and snacks and lunch on Saturday.

This year's Retreat is hosted by DMACC Continuing Education, and sponsored by ISU Extension and Outreach 4-H and Monsanto. All activities, Friday evening and Saturday, will take place at the Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) Campus in Ankeny. It is located a few miles off I-80 and I-35 north of Des Moines. The registration fee covers sessions during the time you are registered, a snack on Friday evening and snacks and lunch on Saturday. DMACC will provide general CEU credit for attending the sessions. If you are traveling from a distance and attending both Friday and Saturday, check the registration forms on the website for discounted hotel arrangements on Friday night.

If you have questions about registration, please contact Ruth Wagner at radwagner@q.com, or 515-964-1965. Come join us for a great weekend of fun and learning.

Upcoming Workshops

- **Elements and Principles of Design, Saturday, January 7th 9:30 - 12:30**
- **Home Improvements, Basics of Design, Saturday, January 29th 9:00 to Noon**

To RSVP for these workshops, please contact: Diana Sosalla, 957-5772 or email sosalla@iastate.edu



OUR VISION

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



Iowa 4-H Youth Conference 2012

It's not too early to start thinking about the upcoming Iowa 4-H Youth Conference—or to share the theme! *Brighten Your World* and attend June 26-28, 2012. More information will come after the first of the year. Do you have questions about the Iowa 4-H Youth Conference? Contact Brenda Allen at bsallen@iastate.edu or 515-294-1567.

Llamas Are Making A Comeback (Submitted by Alisa Hale)

Just to let everyone know we are having a llama show this coming year at the Polk County Fair. It will be on Friday the 20th of July at 2p.m. If you are interested in showing please call Alisa Hale at 515-967-3951 or text me at that number. We will have a clinic this late spring or beginning of summer for all of you those are new or old at this. Even if you don't have a llama but might be interested in showing one there may be options. Please call with any questions and hope to see or hear from you.



Country of Origin Labeling Requirements

As many of you know, the USDA mandated COOL (Country of Origin Labeling) requirements that went into effect September 30, 2008. The state 4-H office has provided an excellent publication to explain what 4-H'ers will need to do. It can be found at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/Agriculture/Documents/4H231.pdf>

What 4-H'ers Need to Do

• **Ask for Documentation** – 4-H'ers need to make sure they collect documentation from the seller when purchasing livestock projects. Documentation could include a signed affidavit from seller of livestock (an example can be found at, <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/livestock/index.htm>, under "Livestock ID")

• **Keep documentation for 2 years minimum** – 4-H'ers must keep the appropriate documentation for a minimum of two years in the case of a USDA audit. If the 4-H'er is the original producer of their own livestock project then the 4-H'er simply needs to keep copies of their production records for two years.

• **Provide documentation of animal's origin to the Fair Board** – This will come in the form of COOL verbiage added to their Fair entry. For exhibitors that also show at State Fair, you will recognize this form as the "Drug Form," but it will have COOL Verbiage added.



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 will be done through 4-H Online (iowa.4honline.com) going forward. As has always been the case non weigh-in species ID's will be due by May15th. To enter non-weigh in species, you will need to log into your 4-H online family record, and add the pertinent Animal ID's to the member record. Weigh-In animals will be entered into 4-H online by county extension staff. It will be the responsibility of the members to log into 4-H On-line to verify that all information is correct within one week of the weigh-in date. Information that is not verified by the members within the verification timeframe will be locked and will not be able to be changed after that date. If you have questions about this process feel free to contact Amy (957-5763 or amarek@iastate.edu) or Phil (957-5771 or pheckman@iastate.edu).

FSQA ELIGIBILITY UPDATE

There are some updates to the FSQA eligibility requirements for the future. Going forward, all 4-H'ers currently in the 4th-6th grades **will be required** to attend FSQA training. 4-H'ers currently in the 7th-9th Grades will be eligible to take the intermediate test, and those in 10th-12th grades will be eligible to take the senior test. These eligibilities will no longer be tied to the 4-H'ers age. This will mean that many 6th graders who were eligible to test out this year will instead need to attend one of the FSQA training sessions held this spring. Polk County will be offering FSQA Training in the evening of March 12th and 15th. These are currently the only two sessions scheduled for Polk County. Be sure to check your calendars to make sure that one of those dates will work for

You and your family, or contact Phil (pheckman@iastate.edu) to make arrangements for an alternative FSQA certification site.



WEIGH-IN DATES

Please mark your calendars with the following weigh-in dates.

Market Beef – Saturday, December 17 from 8:00 – noon at the State Fairgrounds – Cattle Barn

Swine – Saturday, April 7 from 8:00 – 11:00 at Don Timmins' farm in Altoona.

Sheep and Meat Goats– Saturday, May 5 from 8:00 – 11:00 a.m. at the State Fairgrounds – Sheep Barn

4-H IS BASED ON RESEARCH



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
University Extension

Polk County 4-H ... We Make the Best Better!

Home Improvement - Some Basics of Design



Want to learn the basics for redecorating or designing a room? Join us to learn how to use design elements and principles to enhance the different parts of your decorating project. We'll start at the beginning and help you, create and complete your plan including guides on how to choose and measure for window coverings, rugs... and other room accessories.

Where: ISU Extension Office, Polk County

1625 Adventureland Drive, Altoona

When: Saturday, January 28, 9 to 12 noon

Who: All 4-H members — 4th-12th grades

Make your reservation NOW!

***Must have a good understanding of the
Elements and Principles of Design***

Cost = \$7

Bring:

- Room dimensions. Include location of windows, doors, electric plugs, etc.
- Color/theme ideas
- One item for design inspiration... lamp, comforter, etc.

CONTACT:

Diana Sosalla

1625 Adventureland Dr.

Suite A, Altoona, IA 50009

Phone: 515-967-5772

FAX: 515-967-6164

E-mail: sosalla@iastate.edu



"The fees for service will be used to off-set direct expenses and to support the County Extension Program."

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DATES TO REMEMBER

December

- 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
- 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
- 7 Elements & Principles of Design 9:00 am to Noon
- 12 New Families Workshop 6:30 pm
- 17 Office Closed
- 18 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm
- 28 Home Improvement Workshop 9:00 to Noon

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
- 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**

May (continued)

- 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
- TBA Intermediate Trip
- TBA Photography Camp
- 26-28 State 4-H Conference

July

- 2 Polk County & Iowa State Fair Entry Packets Due to Extension Office
- 3 Intermediate Council Meeting 7-8:30 pm
- 3 4-H Program Advisory Board 7-8:30 pm
- 4 Office Closed
- 5 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 11 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm
- 14 Clothing Event
- 18-23 Polk County Fair

August

- 9-19 Iowa State Fair



WANT TO KNOW MORE?

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



Phone Numbers, E-Mail and Website Addresses

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pheckman@iastate.edu

4-H County Youth Coordinator

Diana Sosalla – 957-5772

sosalla@iastate.edu

4-H Volunteer Coordinator

Amy Marek -957-5763

amarek@iastate.edu

4-H Internal Program Coordinator

Jeanine Baldwin – 957-5777

baldwinj@iastate.edu

County Extension Education Director

Jeff Macomber – 993-4281

jmacombe@iastate.edu

Youth Development Specialist

Polk County 4-H Club Page

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

fun & friends

Imagine a world of 4-H where you hang out with people that like the same things you like. Learn about things that interest you!

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