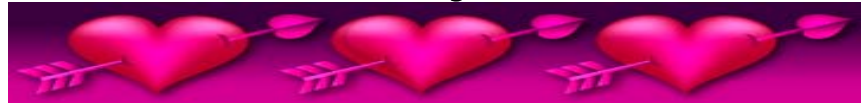
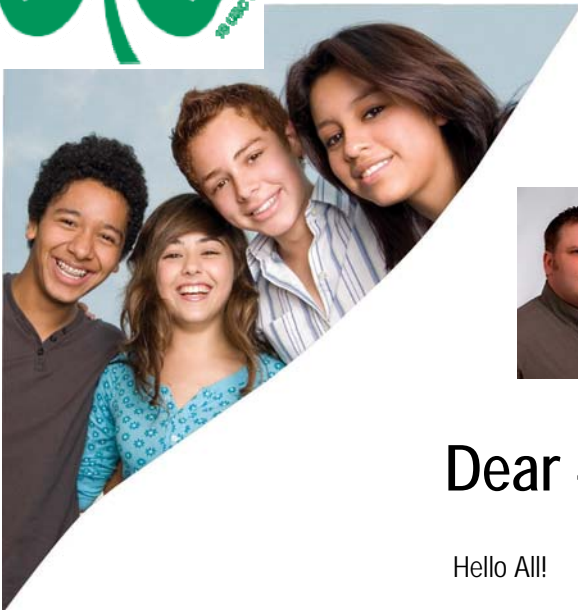




CL^{4H}VER P^{4H}WER

February 2012



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

Dear 4-H Families,

Hello All!

WHAT'S INSIDE:

- Ag Scholarship
- Upcoming Workshops
- Cat Workshop
- Discovering Minneapolis
- 4-H Day at ISU Gymnastics
- Clubs Overnight at the Science Center
- ISU Veterinary 4-H Workshop
- Iowa 4-H Youth Conference
- 2012 4-H Financial Aid Deadline
- Dog Obedience
- Livestock ID's
- FSQA 2012
- Iowa Horse Fair
- Horse Jamboree
- Dates to Remember

I hope that this New Year is treating you well, and that the recent heatwave has not been keeping you from working on your 4-H projects. It is always an exciting time here at the extension office, because we start to see things really gear up for the year. Hopefully you have all safely navigated the new On-Line enrollment systems and that you are taking advantage of logging in to make sure that your information is up to date, and to check on your animal ID's. Your FSQA (Food Safety and Quality Assurance) certification information is transferred over for you to review as well.

I'm busily updating the forms and graphics that are needed to get the Fair Website up to date and ready to go for the 2012 Polk County Fair. Check back in the coming weeks at www.polkcountyfairiowa.com to see the new theme and to check on some exciting additions to the fair schedule.

As always, if you have questions, or just want to touch base about some aspect of 4-H, please don't hesitate to shoot me an e-mail or give me a call, I'm happy to help!

Phil Heckman



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

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/



SCHOLARSHIPS

Ag Enhancement Scholarship

Polk County Farm Bureau is offering a \$2,000 Ag Enhancement Scholarship to a Polk County resident, graduating senior of an accredited Polk County high school, enrolling in a post-secondary school in the state of Iowa as a full-time undergraduate student majoring in an agricultural related field. This \$2,000 scholarship will be given in \$500 increments over four years. Scholarship applications are available from Polk County Farm Bureau, local high schools, or online at www.iowafarmbureau.com. Applications may be sent to Polk County Farm Bureau %Paula Hylbak 300 SE Delaware Ave., Ankeny, IA 50021. Applications must be postmarked no later than March 31st.



WORKSHOPS

Upcoming Workshops

- Cat Workshop, Saturday February 18th 9-12
- Garden Ornaments, February 25th 1-4 pm
- Terrariums Growing Plants in Small Spaces, Saturday March 3rd 1-2:30

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



Cat Workshop

We are planning a cat workshop to be held at the Polk County Extension Office on Saturday, February 18 from 9:00am-Noon. Sarah Walker, Megan Schultz, and Andrea Dorn will be on hand to discuss how to take care of your cat, prepare them for the show and then showing them. Please **do not** bring your cat, this workshop will be demonstration only. For more information you can call Deanna Bennigsdorf at 515-966-2808



MISSION STATEMENT

4-H EMPOWERS YOUTH TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL WORKING



Discovering Minneapolis – Intermediate (7th & 8th grade)

Make plans to join the fun in June and discover some great places in the Minneapolis area. You will meet 4-H'ers from Dallas, Jasper, Mahaska, and Marion, Polk, Poweshiek and Warren counties.

More details will be coming soon.

Chaperone opportunities do exist. If interested contact Jeff Macomber at 515-993-4281 or jmacombe@iastate.edu



4-H Day at ISU Gymnastics

All 4-H members are invited to attend the Iowa State Gymnastics meet at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 26th for free!! Members must RSVP by 5:00 p.m. Monday, February 20th for free admission into the meet. Details and further information will be emailed to participants on Tuesday, February 21st. To sign up, click on the link below. For questions, call JC at 515-294-4870.

http://www.cyclones.com/quest/Questionnaire.dbml?QID=128115&DB_OEM_ID=10700



Iowa 4-H Clubs Overnight at the Science Center of Iowa

State 4-H and the SCI are offering a special night of fun and education for 4-H clubs here at the Science Center of Iowa, April 27th, 2012. You'll have a chance to explore our travelling exhibit "Lost Egypt: Ancient Secrets, Modern Science", attend a late night IMAX about Mummies, travel to Egyptian Skies in our Star Theater and sleep inside the museum. In the morning you'll be able to explore SCI before anyone else gets the chance and you can stay at SCI all day for free. We look forward to hosting an event for you to meet new friends and learn about the great world of science! For all the details and registration, [click here](#). Kristen Darrah, kristen.darrah@sciowa.org.



OUR VISION

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



ISU Veterinary 4-H Workshop

The Iowa State University's Veterinary Student Mixed Animal Recruitment Team (VSMART) will once again be holding a Veterinary 4-H Workshop, Saturday, February 25, 2012. They'll again be offering a variety of veterinary disciplinary stations, including anatomy, pathology, radiology, and many more! The event will run from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., with lunch provided. The workshop is open to grades 7-12. Cost is \$10 per attendee and participation will be **limited** to the first 100 registrations.

[Registration](#) names and checks (made out to VSMART) should be sent to: **Kevin Vaughn; 121 S Russell Ave; Ames IA 50010**. Interested participants should register by February 11. For any questions, feel free to email Kevin Vaughn at kvaughn@iastate.edu.



Iowa 4-H Youth Conference 2012

It may seem early, but mark your calendars now for the 2011 Iowa 4-H Youth Conference, **June 26-28, 2012**. The Conference theme has been set: **Brighten You World**. More details, sample news releases, logos, etc. will be shared in the coming months. Do you have questions about the Iowa 4-H Youth Conference? Contact your state 4-H council representative, Hannah

Thayer at hannahbananat@mchsi.com or Brenda Allen at bsallen@iastate.edu or 515-294-1567.

2012 4-H Financial Aid Deadlines

4-H member contributions to the annual 4-H'ers for 4-H Campaign along with other donor gifts to the Iowa 4-H Foundation provide the funds for 4-H financial aid programs. Here are the application deadlines for 2011:

- January 10 – Transportation Assistance for 4-H Groups traveling to the Iowa 4-H Center
- March 1 – Financial Assistance for individuals attending a summer camp session at the Iowa 4-H Center
- April 25 – Financial Assistance for State 4-H Youth Conference and other qualified 4-H activities (excluding 4-H Center camp sessions)
- May 1 – Transportation Assistance for 4-H Groups traveling to the Iowa 4-H Center

annual program fee(s). Guidelines and application forms can be found by going to: www.iowa4hfoundation.org and clicking the link for "Funding Opportunities."

4-H Program Fee Assistance – ongoing as funds are available for families that need help paying their

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.

LEADER TRAINING

The required Leadership Module will be presented on **Thursday, February 23**. An afternoon session from 1-3 pm and an evening session from 6:30-8:30 pm will be offered. The 4-H online training from this fall can be made up in person at the extension office. Call Phil or Amy to arrange a time to go over the basics of 4-H online.



2012 4-HER'S FOR 4-H CAMPAIGN

The State 4-H Council is adopting the Foundation theme, **My 4-H, My Commitment** for their annual statewide fundraiser. Their goal is to raise \$30,000 by asking Iowa 4-H clubs to donate \$2.50 per member.

The club campaign runs from March 1 to May 15th. 4-H clubs that meet the per member goal will receive a special campaign certificate. Top contributing counties are recognized at the State 4-H Youth Conference in June. For more information contact Albert Grunenwald, 515-294-4780, abgrunen@iastate.edu.

DOG OBEDIENCE

It's that time of year for the Dog Obedience Project to start. Our orientation and organizational meeting will be Wednesday March 4th, 2012 at 6:30 pm at the Extension Office in Altoona. As required by the USDA we will need a copy of your dog's vaccination record before you can start attending classes. A waiver form will be required, and your dog will need to be ID'd in the 4-H On-Line system before you may begin classes as well. Do not bring your dog to the meeting on the 4th.

Regular meetings will begin on the following Sunday at the Des Moines Obedience training Center at 1423 SW Army Post Rd., and they will continue on Sunday afternoons up to the fair in July. Beginners will start at 1:30 and everyone else will begin at 2:30. Please contact Sally Martin at 515-967-5358 if you have questions

or need to make alternate arrangements for orientation.



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 May 15th. 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 heckman@iastate.edu).



FSQA 2012

The 4-H Food Safety and Quality Assurance (FSQA) program will require **all beef, swine, sheep, dairy, goat, poultry, and rabbit exhibitors** (breeding and market animals) at the Polk County and Iowa State Fairs to be certified. FSQA training is an essential tool in understanding how raising 4-H project affects the food on our plates. Knowing the importance of good recordkeeping, understanding feed and feed additives, injections, labels, withdrawals, bio-security, the vet-patient-client relationship, general care and handling, and the ethics of producing food will be covered during the certification training.

All 4-H'ers exhibiting in the above livestock areas and also currently in the 4th - 6th grades **will be required** to attend FSQA training. 4-H'ers currently in the 7th - 9th grades will be

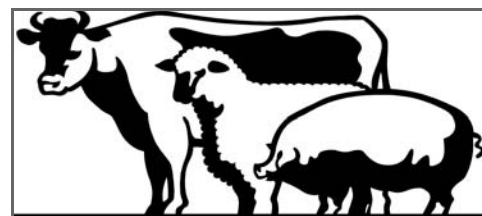
eligible to take the intermediate test, and those in 10th-12th grades will be eligible to take the senior test. These eligibilities will no longer be tied to the 4-H'ers age. This will mean that many 6th graders who were eligible to test out this year will instead need to attend one of the FSQA training sessions held this spring. Polk County will be offering FSQA Training in the evening of March 12th from 6-8 and in afternoon of June 15th from 6-8. This is a change from the previous calendar so please note the new date. 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.

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



IOWA HORSE FAIR

The annual Iowa Horse Fair is scheduled for March 30th- April 1st at the State Fairgrounds in Des Moines at the new Jacobson Exhibition Center. Details can be found on the Iowa Horse Council website, <http://iowahorsecouncil.org/>.



HORSE JAMBOREE

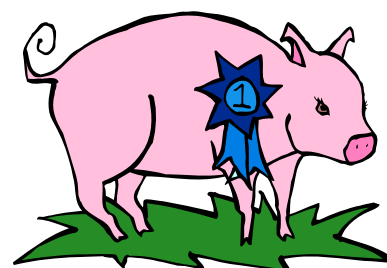
Come and join the excitement March 24th & 25th, 2012 in Ames. Entry Forms are due by March 1st. The Youth Horse Jamboree is an opportunity for youth to participate in a host of activities. From hippology to quiz bowl, public speaking, and horseless horse projects including photography, visual arts, woodworking, creative writing, and others.

Winners from the senior teams of Hippology, Quiz Bowl, and Public Speaking and Demonstration move on to the National Contest in Denver, Colorado!

Find out more by visiting: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/livestock/jamboree.htm>

2012 POLK COUNTY FAIR

The 2012 Polk County Fair is scheduled for July 18-23 at the Iowa State Fair Grounds.



NEW 2012 POLK COUNTY FAIR THEME!

The Polk County Fair Board has made a decision on the Fair theme for the 2012 Polk County Fair. There were many fine submissions, and the fair board chose the theme that was submitted by the Polk County Council. This Year's theme will be "Leap Into the Fair!"



DATES TO REMEMBER

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
- 25 Garden Ornaments Workshop 1 -4 pm

March

- 1 Deadline for Financial aid for Camp from the 4-H Foundation
- 3 Terrariums Workshop 1-2:30 pm
- 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
- 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

Phil Heckman – 957-5771

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

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