



# FOCUS ON 4-H JANUARY 2011



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## Bye for Now

For those of you who didn't receive my email, I am saddened to announce today is my last day working for Iowa State Extension due to accepting a new position with the City of St. Joseph, Missouri. Before I leave, though, I want you to know how much I loved my position!! The people here, both young and old, in Decatur County are the best!!! I've made some great friends, learned a great deal about livestock, and have many memories to cherish; particularly of my first county fair. I thank each of you for your support and wish you good luck in the future. While this is a goodbye for now, you haven't seen the last of me...

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Yours in 4-H,  
Jack VanLaar

Sincerely,  
Theresa Phares

**4-H**  
GROWING TOGETHER

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
University Extension

ISU EXTENSION, DECATUR COUNTY, 309 N MAIN ST., LEON, IA 50144 | 641-446-4723 | MONDAY –FRIDAY 8-4:30 P.M.  
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## Reminder: Upcoming 4-H and Youth Committee Meeting

The 4-H and Youth Committee met for the second time on Monday, November 22nd at the 4-H Building. Committee members were again very active and excited about the future of 4-H. The group created the bylaws and are now ready to get to work! Previously, the group wasted no time in creating a preliminary action plan. County action items included: more county-wide events, improvement of support to first year members, increased recruitment activities at the schools, more county project leaders and ork-

workshops and increased community partnerships. **The group's next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 24th, 2010 at the 4-H building from 6:45 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. Hope to see you there!**

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## Senior 4-Her's: Apply Now for State Awards

Iowa State has made the process for applying for state awards easier than ever before! So senior 4-H'ers of Decatur County, we encourage you to apply!! All applications for state recognition opportunities will consist of a cover sheet, your written responses not to exceed two pages to a set of questions related to the recognition opportunity, and up to two pages of support materials. The support materials are of your choosing and can be drawn from your record books. Applications materials are

available by visiting: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/teens/awards.htm> and are due by February 1st. If you have any questions about the process or need some help, please feel free to contact Theresa at 641-446-4723. or [tphares@iastate.edu](mailto:tphares@iastate.edu).

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

4-H Day is being held January 22nd, 2011 at the game vs. Texas A&M. Tickets are \$15 per person and the pregame tailgate will be held at Scheman with a brunch from 8-11 a.m. You can order tickets and t-shirts at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/explore/isuwbb> or you can contact Shelly Greiving for more information at [shellyg@iastate.edu](mailto:shellyg@iastate.edu)

# MISSION STATEMENT

4-H EMPOWERS YOUTH TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL WORKING



## Iowa 4-H Scholarship Opportunities

Graduating later this school year? Remember, in your pursuit of college scholarships to think about those available to 4-H members. You can get more information by going to the following web address: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/teens/scholarships>.

Very important note...applications for these opportunities need to be in the State 4-H Office by February 1st. Please contact Theresa at 641-446-4723 [ophares@iastate.edu](mailto:ophares@iastate.edu)

or via email at [tphares@iastate.edu](mailto:tphares@iastate.edu) if you have any questions or need assistance applying.

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## Share your 4-H Story

The Iowa 4-H Foundation wants to hear your 4-H story. Was it lifelong friendships you made? A career path you chose? A set of skills you gained? Or the lives you touched? Everyone has their own unique story about how 4-H influenced their life, their family, or their community.

Your story can be sent in writing by mail or email, or you can video or audio your story, or you can post it on the social networks at Facebook or Twitter.

The Iowa 4-H Foundation will collect these stories and post them on their website, blog, social networks and in their monthly and annual communications with 4-H supporters. Simply visit [www.iowa4hfoundation.org](http://www.iowa4hfoundation.org) to learn more.

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## Iowa 4-H Foundation Gala

The Iowa 4-H Foundation's 2nd annual Gala is scheduled for Saturday, February 19, 2011 at the Sheraton Hotel in West Des Moines, Iowa. The Iowa 4-H Foundation funds opportunities for Iowa's youth. Make a difference for Iowa's 4-H youth, reserve your seat today. And if you register by December 31st, each person in your party will receive a \$25 certificate toward the actions. For more information, please go to [www.iowa4hfoundation.org](http://www.iowa4hfoundation.org)

or contact Carol via phone at 515-294-3760 or via email at [ctierney@iastate.edu](mailto:ctierney@iastate.edu).

## MISSION STATEMENT

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## Please Submit Your Enrollments

We really need to have your enrollments submitted no later than January 15th. **If we do not receive your enrollment by this date, you will unfortunately be removed from the newsletter mailing list for February.** On your enrollments, please be sure to include a current email address if you have one. It just makes communications easier.

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## Beef Weigh-In, Fair Board Meeting, 2011 Fair

Beef Weigh-in will be Saturday, January 8, 9-Noon at the Decatur County fairgrounds. Let's hope for no white stuff!! If you are planning on showing market beef at the State Fair or Ak-Sar-Ben, you will also need to weigh-in on January 8 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Decatur County Fairgrounds. The cost is \$5.00 per head, per event.

There will not be a Fair Board meeting in December. Their next meeting will be Jan. 17, 2011.

The 2011 Decatur County Fair is scheduled for Wednesday, July 13th thru Monday, July 18th.

## 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.



## Calendar

### December

**23: Extension Office Closed due to Holiday**

**24: Extension Office Closed due to Holiday**

**31: Extension Office Closed due to Holiday**

### January

**8: Beef Weigh In 9 a.m.-12 p.m.**

**15: Enrollments are due. No enrollment; no newsletter.**

**17: Fair Board Meeting**

**22: 4-H Day ISU Women's Basketball**

**24: 4-H and Youth Committee Meeting 6:45 p.m.**

### February

**1: Deadline for State Awards**

**WANT TO KNOW MORE?**

FIND US AT: [EXTENSION.IASTATE.EDU/4H/DECATUR](http://EXTENSION.IASTATE.EDU/4H/DECATUR)