



## FOCUS ON 4-H MARCH 2011



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### SPRING IS AROUND THE CORNER!

That is what the calendar says officially anyway. Along with the change in seasons comes a 'March' of activities in 4-H. (Pun intended).

#### WHAT'S INSIDE:

Page 1- Spring is around the corner!

Page 2-Area 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp; Camp Counselors sought; Swine and Sheep Weigh-in

Page 3- 4H and Youth Committee; A New 4H Club for Decatur County; FSQA Sessions; Fair Board Chili Cook-off, Supper, and Wheelchair Basketball

Page 4-News from State 4-H-

Page 5- Calendar

- Livestock project members need to schedule their training and testing dates for Food Safety and Quality Assurance (FSQA) certification.
- Market swine and sheep project members need to make plans to select their feeder animals for the weigh-in coming in April.
- Horse project members check out the Iowa Youth Horse Jamboree March 26-27.
- For those with an environmental interest, we are excited to announce we have received a 4-H Foundation grant to start a new Environmental/Outdoor club.
- For everyone, there is the Fair Board Annual Chili Cook-off and Celebrity Wheelchair Basketball event on March 12<sup>th</sup>.

Read about all these and more inside, and get out there and have some fun this spring!

Yours in 4-H,

Jack Van Laar  
County Extension Program Coordinator

**4-H**  
GROWING TOGETHER

**IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
University Extension



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## 2011 Region 12, 17 & 18 Area 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade 4-H Camp June 12-15

Take a ride on the "WILD" side and mark on your calendars to attend **Area 4-H 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Junior Camp for Regions 12, 17 & 18**, June 12-15, at the Iowa 4-H Camping Center near Madrid, Iowa. Experience the adventure and excitement of four days filled with 4-H camp traditions and favorite activities, including nature hikes, creek stumping, wall climbing, canoeing, camp songs, swimming, outdoor camping basics, and campfires! Learn to create cool crafts that work great as 4-H working exhibits. Bring a friend with you or make new ones! Camp will run from Sunday, June 12 at 3 p.m. until our closing ceremony at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, June 15.

4-H camps are open to ALL YOUTH – membership in a 4-H club is not a requirement – so bring a friend to share the experience! Area 4-H Junior camp is open to all Region 12, 17 & 18 youth who have completed grades 5 and 6 and will be held in Birch Village. The camp will be filled at 100 youth, so you will want to register early before it fills up. Registration, Parental Permission and Request for providing Medication at a 4-H Event form (if your camper will be bringing any medications with them) are available from the county extension office or downloaded from <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/harrison/news/2011Jr4HCamp.htm> in Microsoft Word and Adobe PDF format. We will be using your Medical form filled out at the beginning of the 4-H Year provided to us by your county extension office. Please make sure you have it updated if needed. If you are not a current 4-H'er, you will need to fill out a Medical Info form found also at the Jr Camp Website above or from your ISU County Extension Office. Registration Deadline is May 27. Cost for the four day camp will be \$145.00. Check with your County Extension office as most counties may have camp scholarships for 4-H'ers or financial help if needed. Please contact David Seilstad, phone: 712/644-2105 or email: [seilstad@iastate.edu](mailto:seilstad@iastate.edu) if you have any questions on this camp or others offered at the Iowa 4-H Camping center: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4hcenter/summercamp/index.php>

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## 2011 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp Counselors Sought

**GREAT** friends... **GREAT** talks..... **GREAT** memories.....**GREAT** leadership opportunity....  
**GREAT** for the resume and college application....**GREAT** role model that your campers will look up to....  
**GREAT** chance to help younger 4-H'ers grow in their skills....

What could be this **GREAT**?

Being a counselor at **2011 Area 4-H 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Junior Camp for Regions 12, 17 & 18, June 12-15** held at the State 4-H Camping Center in Madrid, Iowa.

You just need to be a 4-H'er and age 16 by June 12 in time for camp.

You will need to attend the two required training sessions in late May and early June. Counselors will head up to camp the day before campers arrive, Saturday, June 11 for a workday to finish preparations for camp as well as get familiar with the important programming sites on the campgrounds. Being a camp counselor is also a great leadership opportunity as you are building your resume for college scholarships and leadership roles at school.

Fill out a counselor application from the county extension office and mail, fax or email it to the Harrison County Extension Office by Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup> to be considered for this year's **GREAT** Camp Leadership Team.

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## MARKET SWINE AND SHEEP WEIGH-IN

Market Sheep and Swine weigh-in will be held **Saturday, April 23, 9am-Noon** to weigh-in, tag and I.D. market swine and sheep. We will also retinal image any state fair candidate lambs and pull hair for DNA on AKSARBEN nominee lambs. Cost will be \$5/head for each. **Those with State Fair or AKSARBEN candidate lambs please do not arrive until after 11:00 a.m.**

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## MISSION STATEMENT

4-H EMPOWERS YOUTH TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL WORKING  
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CARING ADULTS



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## 4-H AND YOUTH COMMITTEE

Due to a conflict with a school event, the 4-H and youth committee cancelled their February 28<sup>th</sup> meeting. A new meeting date will be set for later this month and committee members will be notified.

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## A NEW 4-H CLUB FOR DECATUR COUNTY

Thanks to a grant from the Iowa 4-H Foundation, and a partnership with the Southern Iowa Oak Savanna Alliance (SIOSA), we will be launching a new environmental special interest 4-H club in Decatur County. The club will be based on Iowa Native Ecosystems and restoration and the goal will be for 4-Hers to learn the importance of our region's oak woodland, oak savanna and prairie restoration efforts and to understand more about the animal and plant species that surround them. The club will run through the spring and summer. Existing 4-H members may join this club and still remain in their community club. They would not need to pay an additional enrollment fee, but would simply enroll as their secondary club. Of course, we want to invite other youth who have an interest but are not currently 4-H members to join this club and become 4-H members. If you know of someone who has an interest in the outdoors, the environment and native savanna or prairie restoration, please let them know and invite them to join and become a 4-H member in this special interest group. Call or e-mail the office for details or email [siosa@me.com](mailto:siosa@me.com).

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## FSQA SESSIONS TO BE HELD

**Food Safety Quality Assurance (FSQA)** certification is **required for exhibitors of all species of meat animal and dairy livestock, including rabbits and poultry** to show at the Decatur County or Iowa State Fair in 2011. Three sessions will be held in March and April for junior members (**Grades 4-6**). Juniors must attend training as they have no test-out option. Sessions will be held **March 28<sup>th</sup>, April 6<sup>th</sup> and April 11<sup>th</sup>** (7-9 p.m. each evening at the 4-H Building). **Please call and register for one of these sessions.**

For intermediate and senior members, "test out" sessions will be held from 6:30 pm- 9 pm each evening **March 23 and 31** at the 4-H Building in Leon with a review session from 6:30-7:00 p.m. followed by testing. Members in grades 7-9 may test-out to avoid the training requirement until they become seniors. Seniors (Grades 10 -12) passing the exam will be certified until they are out of 4-H. **Call the office to sign up for one of the test-out sessions.** You may take the exam up to three times during a given session. (**NOTE:** Testing is now based on grade in school rather than age on January 1, with intermediates grades 7-9 and seniors grades 10-12)

**Remember, if you aren't FSQA certified, you can't show!**

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## FAIRBOARD CHILI COOK-OFF AND WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL EVENT

Make plans now to attend the **second annual Fair Board Chili Cook-off and Supper on Saturday, March 12**. New this year will be a **Celebrity Wheelchair Basketball** game at the Central Decatur Community High School. Chili contest entrants should arrive at 3:30 p.m. There is a \$5 entry fee per soup with 100% payback to the top 3 soups. Chili judging is at 4:00 p.m. and the chili supper will commence at 5:00 p.m. The judging results will be announced at 6:30 p.m. with the wheelchair basketball beginning at 7:00 p.m. For more information call Beth Elliott: (641)414-7013; Donna Norman: (641)414-2973 or Amber Richards: (641) 414-5203. Again, this year the Fair Board will be contacting 4-H clubs to supply corn bread or other side items for the supper.

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## 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



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## NEWS FROM STATE 4-H

More 4-H News available at: [www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/explore/news.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/explore/news.htm)

### State Fair Swine Weigh-In Info. 2011

Information for the 2011 State Fair 4-H swine weigh-in process is now posted on the swine page at, <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/livestock/swine.htm>. A tentative listing of sites and times are posted along with updates and changes for 2011. Remember, the Intent to Participate form is due to the State 4-H Office by March 20<sup>th</sup>. A letter will be mailed/emailed to exhibitors at last year's State Fair, but any new swine project members thinking about showing at state fair need to check this out. All pigs wanting to be eligible for State Fair (market, derby, breeding) need to attend one of the regional site locations. (Mike Anderson)

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### Iowa Youth Horse Jamboree

The annual Iowa Youth Horse Jamboree is scheduled for March 26 and 27 in Ames. Entry information is posted on the 4-H Horse Jamboree site, <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/livestock/jamboree.htm>. **Entries were due March 1.** See the website for more details. (Mike Anderson)

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### 2011 Iowa Livestock Health Requirements Posted

The 2011 Livestock Health Requirements are now posted on the 4-H livestock homepage, <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/livestock/>, under "4-H Resources". (Mike Anderson)

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### Hiring 4-H Camp Staff

The Iowa 4-H Center is now hiring Camp Staff for the coming summer. Applicants must be 18 years old by May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2011. Application materials can be found on the web at [www.iowa4hcamp.com](http://www.iowa4hcamp.com) or applicants can call the camp office and talk to Abbie Parker at (515)795-3338. Applications are due April 31, 2011. (Abbie Parker)

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### 4-H Camera Corps Returns for 2011

Iowa 4-H Camera Corps is now taking applications for 2011! The 4-H Camera Corps is open to any 4-H'er involved in the photography project area, and is a way for interested members to expand their photography and photojournalism skills. The theme for 2011 is "Rural Iowa Architecture" which can include, but is not limited to farmsteads, barns, main streets, and bridges. We encourage you to find interesting structural designs near you, take photos, and learn about the history of your subject.

More information and the application form can be found at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/iowa4-hcameracorps>. 2010 Camera Corps participants and all 4-H members with a 4-H photo displayed at the 2010 Iowa State Fair will be receiving an invitation letter directly from the State 4-H Office. We encourage photography project members to be involved as this is a great way for you to improve your photography skills while learning and having fun. 4-H Camera Corps participation would also make a fun club/group activity. (S.Goemaat, M.Hoyer)

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## Reminder from our partner organizations:

**HUNTING AND CONSERVATION CAMP FOR BOYS** ages 12-15 to experience many activities available in Iowa's great outdoors: Springbrook State Park; Two dates: June 22-24 and July 27-29, 2011. **Registration is on a first-come, first served basis.** Contact the Extension Office for more information, registration form and possible cost-share through the local Pheasants Forever Chapter, or Ajay Winter, Iowa DNR, Springbrook Conservation Education Center-phone (641)747-8383 ext. 11; [ajay.winter@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:ajay.winter@dnr.iowa.gov).

**OUTDOOR JOURNEY FOR GIRLS** ages 12-15 to try hands-on skills in outdoor recreation, survival and other related activities. Two camps offered at Springbrook State Park June 15-17 and again August 3-5, 2011 for western Iowa and one July 12-14 for eastern Iowa at Hickory Hills Park near Dysart. Contact the Extension Office for more information, registration form and possible cost-share through the local Pheasants Forever Chapter, or go to <http://www.iowadnr.gov/oj/index.html>.

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# FIND THIS AND PAST 4-H NEWSLETTERS

ON-LINE AT [WWW.EXTENSION.IASTATE.EDU/DECATUR/KIDSTEENS.HTM](http://WWW.EXTENSION.IASTATE.EDU/DECATUR/KIDSTEENS.HTM)



# CALENDAR

## March

**Mar 12-**Chili Cook-off, Supper and Celebrity Wheelchair Basketball- CD High School

**Mar 15,-** 4-H Club Leader spring training. 7 pm. 4H Building.

**Mar 21-**Fair Board Meeting- 7 pm- 4-H Building

**Mar 23-**Int/Sr FSQA Review-6:30-7:30 pm and Testing- 7:30 pm- 4-H Building

**Mar 26-27-**Iowa Youth Horse Jamboree-Ames

**Mar 28-** Jr. FSQA Training 7-9 pm-4-H Building

**Mar 31-**Int/Sr FSQA Review-6:30-7:30 pm and Testing- 7:30 pm- 4-H Building

## April

**April 1-** early 4-H Center camp registration discount deadline

**April 6-** Jr. FSQA Training 7-9 pm-4-H Building

**April 11-** Jr. FSQA Training 7-9 pm-4-H Building

**April 18-**Fair Board Meeting-7 pm- 4-H Building

**April 23-**County Market Swine and Sheep weigh-in-9am-Noon- Fairgrounds

**April 23-30-** State Fair Swine Identification and Weigh-ins (Regional Locations-go to) <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/livestock/swine.htm>

**April 31** State Camp Staff applications due

## May

**May 1-** All enrollments and non-market livestock I.D. forms due in Extension office.

**May 16-4-Hers for 4-H Campaign** club contributions due to county extension office.

**May 16-** Fair Board Meeting-7 pm- 4-H Building

## WANT TO KNOW MORE?

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