



4-H FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Dear 4-H families and friends,

I sincerely hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends. Hopefully you are all looking forward to the rest of the holiday season and a very Merry Christmas, I know I am!

I've had a chance to meet many of you and am very excited that we have so many wonderful 4-H families and friends in Hancock County. Thanks for being so patient with me as I learn my new responsibilities as your County Youth Coordinator. I've already been here for two months, and it is starting to feel like home.

Please be sure to read the entire newsletter. We have some very neat opportunities happening for us. I would love to go with 4-Hers from all over our county to the 4-H Day at ISU Women's Basketball! I'm looking forward to getting the Intermediate Council started and seeing applications that you get turned in. I'm very familiar with most of the state-wide opportunities that are available to older 4-Hers and I would totally recommend that you check them out. Make sure you like our Facebook page; it gives us a great chance to connect with each other. If your project area wasn't highlighted in this newsletter be sure to watch other newsletters, we are trying really hard to provide ideas and activities in each project area.

We have many 4-H workbooks and worksheets for specific project areas here in the office. A lot of this stuff has been updated to the State 4-H webpage, but the books still provide great information and ideas for your project. Be sure to stop by and pick one up or ask your leader if you are interested.

If you have ideas and suggestions for 4-H in Hancock County please let me know. I'm energized to try new things and reach an even bigger audience in Hancock County. Your ideas and help will be great in growing our 4-H program and "Making the Best Better" for even more youth in Hancock County.

All the best,

Victoria Schmidt
HANCOCK COUNTY EXTENSION
County Youth Coordinator
vschmidt@iastate.edu
641-923-2856



Team ICE (Intelligent Creative Engineers) demonstrating what the FIRST LEGO League missions are about to visitors at the Garner Fall Festival.



Team FIRE (Future Intelligent Robotic Engineers) is working to complete the field pieces for the robotic missions.



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

WHAT'S INSIDE:

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4-H

GROWING TOGETHER



SENIOR 4-HERS GET INVOLVED

State-Wide Opportunities & Beyond

High school aged 4-Hers have many opportunities for them beyond the county level. Right now our county has two youth on the State 4-H Council. The Council is in charge of planning Iowa 4-H Youth Conference. You can apply to be on State 4-H Council, and that is only one of the many state level opportunities you can apply for. Others include:

- National 4-H Conference
- Nation 4-H Congress
- Iowa Youth Technology Team
- State Project Awards

Opportunities require a written application and an interview on March 24, 2012 at Iowa State University. Pre-recorded interviews are accepted for schedule conflicts.

Your written application is due February 1st to the State 4-H office. More information can be found at www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/teens/awards.htm

"These opportunities are SUPER FUN and I would recommend all high school 4-Hers take advantage of them. I have met tons of new great friends! It has been a very cool experience, don't pass it up!"

~Ashley Smeby, State 4-H Council Members

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK

Hancock County 4-H Facebook Page

Keep up-to-date with 4-H on Facebook. We will be posting events, uploading pictures, and providing you with tons of information.

Find us at <https://www.facebook.com/HancockCounty4H>.



Share with your friends and those who are interested in 4-H.

MONEY FOR COLLEGE

More than 100 4-H Scholarships Available Annually

The Iowa 4-H Foundation announces the 2012 scholarship programs for 4-H'ers attending or planning to attend college fall 2012. More than 100 scholarship programs totaling over \$95,000 may be awarded.

The various awards range in amounts from \$500 to \$5,000. Some of the scholarships are open to students pursuing any field of study, while others are open to students pursuing degrees in agriculture, food and nutrition, ag business, animal science, and journalism. Former Iowa 4-H'ers and current 4-H'ers graduating from high school are eligible applicants.

The majority of the scholarships will be awarded to

students attending Iowa State University. Some scholarships are also available to students planning to attend another Iowa Regent universities, Iowa private college, or Iowa community college.

4-H Scholarship information, forms, and applications are available on the 4-H public web page:

www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/teens/scholarships.htm.

Applications must be received on site or postmarked no later than March 1, 2012 for consideration. Mail to 4-H Scholarships, Extension 4-H Youth Bldg-ISU, Ames, Iowa 50011-3630.

MISSION STATEMENT

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



JANUARY 14TH, 2012

4-H Day at ISU Women's Basketball Game



The Iowa 4-H Foundation is hosting a 4-H Day at the Iowa State Cyclone Women's basketball game versus Texas A&M on Saturday, January 14th, 2012 at Hilton Coliseum in Ames.

Ticket packages are \$20 per person and include: Admission ticket to game,

pre-game 4-H tailgate dinner (food & drink) at the Iowa State Center Scheman Building (first floor), an exclusive Cyclone 4-H t-shirt, and the opportunity to attend the 4-H Leads to Careers tour hosted by the ISU College of Human Sciences (limited to the first 300 who register; designed for middle school and high school youth).

Join your fellow 4-H'ers and Cyclone fans from 4:30-7 p.m. for an exclusive 4-H pre-game dinner tailgate that will be held at the Iowa State Center Scheman Building (next to Hilton Coliseum). Put on your exclusive 2012 Cyclone/4-H t-shirt and walk over to Hilton Coliseum for a 7pm tip-off to see the Cyclones take on Texas A&M.

Parking is available directly north and south of Scheman, or in the lots across the street to the south where other game attendees will park. Pick up your ticket(s) and t-shirt(s) at the tailgate event prior to the game. They will not be mailed in advance. Don't miss out, buy your tickets today!

Anyone and everyone are invited to attend so bring your families and friends. Find out more and order your ticket packages at www.iowa4hfoundation.org/4hisuwbb

Interested in traveling together as the Hancock County 4-H family? Contact Victoria at 641-923-2856 or vschmidt@iastate.edu before December 31st.

GIFTS OF GRAIN

Include 4-H in your Harvest

Give a gift of grain this year that will benefit youth in our county while helping you save on your taxes. A donation of grain is an easy way for Iowa farm families to show their support for the 4-H Program and make sure 4-H continues for future generations. Consider donating 50, 100 or even 200 bushel to 4-H and making a difference in the future of our state, our children and our communities!

To find out more about donating grain, contact Albert Grunenwald at abgrunen@iastate.edu or call 515-294-4780

Here's how to give grain to 4-H:

1. Deliver the grain to your local elevator or co-op.
2. Transfer the grain to the Iowa 4-H Foundation. (Hancock County, if desired)
3. Ask for a warehouse receipt showing the Iowa 4-H Foundation as the owner.
4. Contact the 4-H Foundation ([515-294-1537](tel:515-294-1537) or iowa4h@iastate.edu) and tell them where the grain is stored. The Foundation will order the sale of the grain with the original sales invoice.
5. Tell others how easy it is to donate grain and make an impact on 4-H!



Farmers should always consult with their professional tax or legal advisors to determine tax implications prior to making the gift.

OUR VISION

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



SHOWCASE YOUR 4-H CLUB

Donate Brick to 4-H Camping Center

Honor the name of a special 4-H person, group, or event with an inscribed brick or paver the dining hall patio at the Iowa 4-H Camping Center. Proceeds support ongoing maintenance and new improvements at the Center as well as financial assistance for youth to attend 4-H summer camps.

This is a great way to have your club in permanent stone or to recognize someone special. Red bricks with 1-3 lines of text are \$100 or \$50 if purchased by your 4-H club.

If you would like more information or if you or your club is interested in this donation please contact Victoria at the Extension office at 641-923-2856 or vschmidt@iastate.edu.



INTERMEDIATE COUNTY COUNCIL APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

7th & 8th Graders Needed for County Leaders



Each year 4-H members in grades 7-8 are invited to apply for a position on the Hancock County Intermediate Council. Members will work as a team to gain leadership, citizenship, and communications skills while they contributing to the community. The Intermediate Council will work on developing life skills through fun activities, collaborate with the Senior Council,

and have special activities and duties at county 4-H events.

Council members are expected to participate in Intermediate Council meetings and activities and be leaders in your regular clubs. To be on the Intermediate County Council 7-8 graders must fill out a short, one-page application.

The application is available on our webpage at www.extension.iastate.edu/hancock/kidsteens.htm

Or you can contact Victoria at vschmidt@iastate.edu or 641-923-2856 to get an application. Applications are due January 6th, 2012.

COOL 4-H STUFF

4-H Merchandise for Christmas Ideas

Are you in need of an idea for the 4-Her, 4-H alum, or 4-H volunteer in your life? Perfect ideas can be found at the two websites listed below!

Iowa 4-H Store: iowa4h.compet.com

National 4-H store: 4-hmall.org



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 Area Updates

DOG

Many 4-H families have dogs. Everyone loves their pets, but do you ever wish that your dog was better behaved? Did you know that 4-Hers can attend dog obedience classes next summer for free? Have a great time with your pet, meet other dog owners, learn how to teach your dog manners, even show your dog at the county fair! Some counties even have really neat obstacle courses for dogs called agility.

If you have a dog and are interested in becoming more involved with your dog please contact Victoria at 641-923-2856 or vschmidt@iastate.edu.



HORSE

There are horse project members that have expressed an interest in doing more than just the weekly summer practices and exhibiting at the county fair. What activities can you think of doing during the cold winter months? Here are some things that surrounding counties are doing:

Jan. 22 – Tack Swap & clothing swap, Feed and Nutrition speaker, - Palo Alto County Extension Office

Feb. 26 – Vaccinations, wound care, first aid kits, wrapping legs – Emmet County (location to be determined)

Wanna do something in Hancock County? Call Victoria at 641-923-2856 with your ideas.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Did you know that Citizenship, Communication, Leadership, and Self-Determined are all project areas in 4-H?

Almost all of you are probably doing something that would fit these project categories. Are you helping lead, determine, or execute a service project? That's citizenship! Are you doing presentations for your club? That's Communication! Do you hold an office, help others, or be a role model for a younger 4-H? That's Leadership! Cool huh?



You can sign up for these project areas if you are interested in awards or keeping records about these activities.

SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, & TECHNOLOGY

First Lego League Teams FIRE and ICE have been working hard since the end of August to prepare for Regional Competition. They have learned to:

- build a robot and field pieces
- perfect their robotic missions
- Research and create a presentation for the Food Factor Challenge
- work on team building
- practice gracious Professionalism.



In only 13 weeks they have been working with their leaders achieve their goals. Saturday, December 3, each team will be competing in the Regional competition at Cedar Falls for a chance to advance to State at ISU in January.

We wish them the best of luck!

SHOOTING SPORTS

4-H has a fun emerging new club in many surrounding counties called Safety and Education in Shooting Sports (SESS). Here are some things you can do in this club:

- Practice safety techniques and response to range commands
- Learn basic shooting fundamentals
- Clean and maintain firearms and equipment
- Learn about eye and ear protection
- The ethics about responsible gun usage.
- Develop shooting skills
- Explore wildlife conservation



Interested 4-Hers, friends, and volunteers should contact the Extension Office at 641-923-2856.

BEEF



It is getting to be the time of year when you need to weigh-in your market animals.

Our County weigh-in is January 7th from 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at Nathan Drake's farm one mile west of Britt.

After weigh-in all members will need to verify their animal's information is correct in 4-H Online. You will need to make sure you have re-enrolled to be 4-H member before that date.

If you are planning to exhibit market animals at the Iowa State Fair you will need to attend a weigh-in that has retinal scanning. Please contact the Extension Office at 641-923-2856 if you need more information.

4-H IS BASED ON RESEARCH



4-H ONLINE UPDATE

Re-enrollment in 4-H

If you have not done so yet, it is VERY important that you get re-enrolled in 4-H using the 4-H online program. Your club leaders will be able to tell you if you are enrolled if you aren't sure. If you haven't done it yet, drop everything right now and head to that computer.



- Go to <http://iowa.4honline.com>.
- Enter your family email that you use frequently. (if you don't know, the Extension Office can help.)
- Select "I forgot my password"

- Copy your new temporary password that was emailed to your inbox.
- Click login and scroll down to the family members listed at the bottom of the screen
- Click edit on the right side of each family member you want to re-activate
- Scroll to the bottom of each family member's page and click "Enroll for 2011-2012"
- Follow instructions making sure you fill out as many fields as you can or that apply to you.
- The club you were in last year is already identified.
- Don't forget to select your projects.
- Click submit and the enrollment will be sent to the office for

verification that everything is included.

All livestock identification will be through 4-H Online this year. If you have a market animal that is required to attend a weigh-in, (beef, sheep, or swine) these animals will be entered by the county and you will need to go to 4-H Online to verify the information is correct.

We will provide you with more information about the 4-H Online program as it becomes available to us. Once we have all learned how to use the program it will be of great benefit. Familiarize yourself as much as possible with the program and get used to signing-on. If you ever have any questions call Victoria at 641-923-2856 and we'll learn together.

2011 4-H AWARDS PROGRAM

4-Hers Efforts & Talent Recognized

The 2011 4-H Awards program was held on November 20th from 4-6 p.m. at the Garner-Hayfield High School Auditorium. Many 4-Hers were recognized for their hard work and accomplishments. They received awards in their project areas by meeting the required curricula. Fifty-eight 4-Hers received an award for at least one project area. Many 4-Hers received awards in multiple project areas.

In addition to the project records, 4-Hers are eligible to apply for competitive awards that are judged based on their citizenship, leadership, and character. Winners for these awards have done an excellent job showcasing the amazing things they have done in each award category.

The Awards Program also recognizes outstanding 4-H volunteers. This year we recognized Ladonna Schaefer for her service to the 4-H program, Mark Hejlik for his

outstanding help at the county fair, and Deb Duregger who has been a 4-H club leader for 11 years and has decided to retire. These volunteers are the caring adults that make the 4-H program thrive in Hancock County.

If you turned in a record book please make sure to pick up your book and your awards at the Extension Office. If you need another plaque please send money and your order to the Extension Office by Dec. 31st. Checks can be made to Hancock County Extension.



\$9.50 - Plaque with header plate that has a clover, your name, and county name.

\$6.00 – Plaque – No header

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

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



SNOW FUN FOR YOU AND FRIENDS

Winter Hullabaloo @ Iowa 4-H Camping Center

Looking for something fun to do during winter break? Join the Iowa 4-H Center for a winter wonderland celebration December 28-30th. Youth, ages 8-12, can spend three days, two nights at camp during their winter break. Campers will enjoy snow tubing (weather permitting), winter night hikes, lots of crafts, games, and more.

Celebrate winter, camp style! Check-in is 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday December 28th and check-out is 4:00 p.m. Friday December 30th. For this three day, two night camp it is a cost of \$110.



For more information and registration form please go to

www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/center/wintercamp.htm

You can also call the Extension Office for more information.

PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT MEMBERS

2012 Iowa 4-H Camera Corps Registration Online

Iowa 4-H Camera Corps is a great opportunity for 4-H members who want to expand their photography skills. The theme for 2012 is "American Life".

Members who participate can do an educational workshop, learn from photography expert, Tim Florer, and have their photos considered for selection in future publications and exhibitions.

Working independently, participants will identify local photo opportunities, choose subjects of personal interest, and tell a story through their photographs.

Nationwide Agribusiness, with assistance



from photographer Tim Florer, sponsors the Iowa 4-H Camera Corps project as a way to give interested 4-H members a way to expand their photography skills as a photojournalist.

The application and more information can be found at www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/iowa4-HCameraCorps. After you apply you will receive an email with more information.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Sara Goemaat, Camera Corps Assistant, at sgoemaat@iastate.edu or Mitchell Hoyer at mhoyer@iastate.edu.

NEWSLETTER NEWS

Hancock 4-H Newsletter

We will work hard to send you the 4-H Family Newsletter every other month. This month you are receiving a hard copy in the mail as well as a link to the online version of the newsletter. Please give us input on which method you prefer.

If you have things you would like to see in the newsletter, please send them to Victoria at vschmidt@iastate.edu or drop them off at the Extension Office.

Thanks for reading!

...and justice for all

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