



Hancock County

4-H Family News

Dear 4-H Families,

Welcome to 2008! Did you set any New Year Resolutions? I encourage you to try something new in 4-H this year. It could be a new project area, applying for Area Recognition or doing a record book; whatever you choose, there is always someone to assist you at the Extension Office.

There have been a number of enrollment and medical forms turned in. However, over half have not. These forms need to be turned in as soon as possible to ensure you continue getting deadline information as well as county wide workshops and fun event notices.

We had our beef weigh-in on December 29. If you are still planning on bringing market beef animals to the fair, or you have a return bucket/bottle, you must attend a weigh-in. Give us a call to find out other county dates.

The beef weigh-in marks the beginning of deadlines for fair. Make sure to watch the Dates to Remember very close as many of these deadlines are non-negotiable.

I wish all of you a happy and healthy 2008. I look forward to working with you this year.

*Misty Hinson
County Youth Coordinator*

Dates to Remember

January

- 1 Extension Office Closed - New Year's Day
- 5 Clover Kids - Extension Office, Garner
- 10 Officer Training
- 11 Call Deadline for Tractor Certification Course
- 12 Clover Kids - Britt Public Library
- 12-27 National Western Stock Show - Denver, CO
- 13 Ice Skating Party - County Wide
- 14 Record Book Workshop
- 19 NC Iowa Youth Beef Conference - Iowa Falls
- 26 Clothing Craze Workshop

February

- 1 Scholarship Applications Due
- 2 Clover Kids - Extension Office, Garner
- 9 Clover Kids - Britt Public Library
- 9-10 State Leader's Retreat - Newton
- 11 Area Recognitions Application Deadline
- 11-18 Iowa Beef Expo - Des Moines
- 26 Garden Project Workshop

March

- 8 Clover Kids - Extension Office, Garner
- 14-15 Intermediate Overnight
- 15 Clover Kids - Britt Public Library
- 29 National 4-H Conference - Washington D.C.

April

- TBA State Fair Swine Derby Weigh-ins
- 4-6 Shooting Sports Leader Certification Workshop
- 11-13 Horse Jamboree - State Fair Grounds
- 19 Clover Kids - Extension Office, Garner
- 26 Clover Kids - Britt Public Library

May

- 17 Clover Kids - Britt Public Library
- 31 Clover Kids - Extension Office, Garner

July 2008

- 16-21 Hancock County Fair

August 2008

- 7-17 Iowa State Fair

Misty's Office Hours

You can find me in the office Monday - Friday from 9 am-4:30 pm. Call, e-mail, or stop on by!
mhinson@iastate.edu



Let's Ice Skate!



The Orthel Jolly Workers 4-H Club invites all 4-H members and friends to a county wide Ice Skating Party on Sunday, January 13 from 2:30-4:30pm at the Mason City Ice Arena.

Admission is \$2 plus a \$1 skate rental fee. However, if you have your own skates you may bring them! Snacks will be provided by the Orthel Jolly Workers.

All participants must have a medical release form on file at the Extension Office to participate.

Calling all 7th & 8th graders!!

The Hancock and Winnebago County Councils have once again teamed up to bring you an overnight event at the Forest City YMCA. Details are currently being planned so mark your calendar and plan to attend the Intermediate Overnight on March 14-15.

Once all plans are finalized a registration form will be mailed directly to all intermediate 4-H members. What could make this event even more fun? It is open to all 7th & 8th graders so make a photocopy of your registration form, or stop by the office for a copy, and bring a friend!

Just a reminder: all participants must have a medical release form on file at the Extension Office.

Officer Training

Have you recently been elected as an officer in your 4-H club? Whether you are a first timer, or an old pro who just wants a refresher, the officer training workshop is the place to be. Join County Council Members and club officers from around the county on Thursday, January 10th from 7-8:30pm at the Extension Office.

4-H leaders and parents are welcome!

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Record Book Workshop

Do you stress out because you don't know what to put in your record book? Do you struggle trying to remember which "safe place" you stashed your project materials each year? If this sounds like you, grab a parent and meet me at the Extension Office on Monday, January 14 from 7-8:30pm.

Bring your questions, methods that work for you, ideas of projects you want to do this year and a parent to help take notes!



4-H Enrollment Forms Due

There are many members who have not yet turned in their enrollment and medical forms for the new year. There are many things that can not happen until you are officially registered. Some things that depend on your enrollment are: processing livestock paperwork, receiving a county 4-H newsletter, receiving invitations and announcements about upcoming workshops and fun county wide events, not to mention continued information from your club.



Attention Junior 4-H Members!!

Do you like to shop? Do you want to learn more about how plain clothes can become an AWESOME outfit? Do you want to learn how to get more bang for your shopping buck? If you answered yes to any of these questions then the Clothing Craze Workshop is for you!

Franklin County 4-H Member Taylor Collins has arranged this workshop for January 26th from 10:30-12:30 at Southbridge Mall in Mason City. All participants will receive a \$5 gift certificate for the mall.

There is no cost to attend and it is open to 4-H and non 4-H members so invite a friend! Please RSVP to your County Extension Office by Friday, January 18 so we have plenty of materials on hand for everyone!

Area Award Opportunities

Calling all senior (9th-12th) 4-H members!! You should have already received a packet of information on the various State and National awards that are available. There is a little paperwork involved; however, it is all about the projects that you have worked on in your 4-H career! The deadline to turn applications in to the Extension Office is February 11th. Need more information? Give me a call! I encourage every one to give it a try

Garden Members

Join Garden Fair Superintendent Theresa Snyder and myself on Tuesday, February 26th from 7-8:30pm at the Extension Office to get ideas for your garden project.

When to plant different items, how and when to start plants from seeds, pesticide application, and how to incorporate leadership into your garden project are just a few of the topics that will be discussed during this workshop. Parents and/or garden partners are welcome!

North Central Iowa Youth Beef Conference

An educational program sponsored by Iowa State University Extension for North Central Iowa beef producers and youth will be held Saturday, January 19, 2008, at Ellsworth Community College in Iowa Falls from 10 am -2 pm with registration beginning at 9:30 in the Gentle Student Center.

There is no cost for youth to attend and a noon lunch will be provided. Parents are welcome to stay for a fee of \$5. Youth that pre-register by January 4 will receive a free t-shirt. Contact the Extension Office for registration materials.

Scholarship Reminder

By this time all High School Seniors should have received a packet containing 4-H scholarship information. Applications must be received at the State 4-H Office by February 1, 2008. Late applications will **not** be considered.

Almost \$100,000 will be awarded in 94 different scholarships. Please read over the material and follow all guidelines and requirements when filling out your paperwork. Give me a call if you have questions. I would love to help!

Information can also be found at:
www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/grants.html

Attention Area Youth and Farmers

Federal law requires youth ages 14 and 15 to have completed training and be certified before they may be legally employed to do many types of farm work on any farm other than their parents farm. ISU, Sac County Extension is looking into doing the Tractor & Machinery Certification course on two Fridays and two Saturdays in March 2008. The course is 24 hours and includes classroom instruction, hands-on training, and will conclude with a written and practical test of knowledge and ability to operate tractors and farm machinery safely. There needs to be 20 students in order for us to have the course. Please call 712-662-7131 by January 11th if you are interested.

State Leader Retreat

"Capture the Spirit" is the theme for the 2008 State Volunteer Retreat scheduled for Friday, February 8 and Saturday, February 9 at DMACC in Newton.

Earlybird registration postmarked by January 18th is \$10. Late registration is \$15 with a post mark of January 19-26. Contact the Extension Office for more information and a registration form.

Club Notes

Bingham Champions

Leader: John Schutter

Britt Broncos

Leaders: Nancy Horstman & Jane Johnson

-Club Meeting: January 5th - 9am at Patterson's shop

-Club Meeting: February 10th - 2pm at Patterson's shop - club sledding party after the meeting.

Elcon Indians

Leaders: Rosemary Weaver & Deb Dureger

-Club Meeting: January 20th - 1:45pm at the Garner Education Center

-Family Potluck: February 26th - 6:30pm at the Garner Viaduct Center (USDA Building)

Ellery Country Clover

Leaders: Jennifer Kropp & Sherri Anderson

-Club Meeting: January 16th - 7:30pm at the United Methodist Church in Klemme

-Club Meeting: February 13th - 7:30pm at the United Methodist Church in Klemme

Erin Enterprizers

Leader:

Orthel Jolly Workers

Leaders: Mel Hiscocks, Kathy Larson & Deb Kruger

-Host of the County Wide Ice Skating Party on January 13th at the Mason City Ice Arena

-Club Meeting: February 9th - 9am-4pm at the Britt Municipal Building



County Council Happenings

Members:

Emily Bertilson

*Sara Formanek

*Morgan Greiman

*Stephany Gremmer

Whitney Johnson

*Libby Kropp

Valerie Luppen

*Mike Tlach

Brittany Brooks

Cole Greiman

Zach Greiman

Andrea Hrubes

Konnie Keifer

*Kristi Larson

Mary Pistek

* denotes the Executive Board

Lindsey Burgardt

Kyle Greiman

Greg Gremmer

*Courtney Jass

Danelle Kohlmeyer

Katie Lonneman

*Brianna Schmidt

December Meetings:

Executive Board:

-Heard from Fair Board President Tom Formanek on ways to draw kids and families to the fair.

-Set dates and discussed upcoming events: Intermediate overnight, county workshops, officer training.

-Discussion on ways to make 4-H more attractive to kids and families to grow Hancock County 4-H

Workshop Committee:

-Planned and created a rough agenda for the January Record Book Workshop.

-Brainstormed other workshops that could be done at the county level.

Clover Kids

Leader: Misty Hinson

-Garner Group Meeting: January 5th - 9-10:30 at the Garner Education Center.

-Britt Group Meeting: January 12th - 9-10:30 at the Britt Public Library.



...and justice for all

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