



Clover Connection

Clayton County Extension

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Clayton County 4-H & FFA Family Newsletter

September 2009



The *CLOVER CONNECTION* is prepared each month to keep all informed about the 4-H & Youth program and events in Clayton County. You are encouraged to read through it and contact the Extension Office if there are any questions.

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Dear Friends,

It was another great year at the fair in spite of the rain! Thanks for all your hard work and to the parents, grandparents, family and friends that support you! The fair is for Fun and Friendships—the rest of the year is about learning responsibility, sportsmanship and self-confidence. It's about learning to communicate and to think on your feet. It's about acquiring new hobbies or learning about your project areas. It's trying something new. That's what 4-H is all about.

Success in your life is not measured by the number of trophies or purple ribbons, rather it is what you learn from the experience that should be your greatest reward.

Thanks again for another great year! Now is the time to start making plans for the new year and recruiting new 4-H members. Share what you have experienced and learned and encourage others to become a part of it.



Enjoy autumn!

Tammy Muller

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County 4-H & Youth Program Coordinator

4-H Families and Volunteers...How is Clayton County 4-H?

We can only improve our 4-H program if we know what needs improvement and what is working well. Please take time to share your thoughts with us through this on-line assessment. PLEASE take time to share with us by **September 15**. <http://tinyurl.com/nkd4h8>

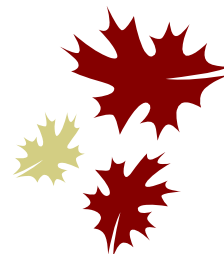
Calendar of Events

September

- 7 Holiday, Extension Office Closed
- 15 Extension 4-H & Youth Committee Meeting, 7:30 pm
- 16 Clayton Co. 4-H Foundation Meeting, 7:30 pm
- 19 Youth Classic Dairy Show, 10 am, West Union
- 20 Shooting Sports, 1 pm, Osborne
- 20 4-H County Council Conference, 2-7 pm, Decorah
- 24 4-H Leader Meeting, 7:30 pm, Keystone AEA, Elkader
- 27 Citizenship Project Meeting, 7 pm, Extension Office

October

- 1 All County Award applications & record books due



Coming March 27– April 2, 2010 Clayton/Fayette 4-H Washington, DC Trip

Tentative plans include Gettysburg National Military Park, Hershey's Chocolate World, Mount Vernon, the National 4-H Center, National Cathedral, Holocaust Museum, Ford Theatre, White House, U.S. Capital, Kennedy Center, Smithsonian Institute, Arlington National Cemetery and more! Trip is open to both youth (grades 7-12) & adults. All 7th & 8th graders must be accompanied by an adult.

Contact the Extension Office to be put on an interest list. More information on the trip will be available in the fall.

We will be having a Citizenship Meeting on Sunday, September 27 at 7 pm at the Extension Office. Be sure to mark your calendars!

Greg & Deb Schulte Inducted into Iowa 4-H Hall of Fame

Greg & Deb Schulte of Edgewood were inducted into the 4-H Hall of Fame on August 23 at Iowa State Fair. 4-H is truly a family affair with the Schulte family. As a child Greg was a member of the Woodcenter Eagles 4-H Club. Greg served as a volunteer leader for over 30 years as a 4-H leader or member of the Youth Committee. He also has served on the Clayton County Extension Council. Deb was never involved with 4-H as a youth but got involved thru Greg's involvement after they married. She is a former Leader of the Woodcenter Eagles and former member of the Youth Committee. Greg and Deb have 4 children, Cameron, Carmen, Craig, and Caren. All were 4-H members and all served on the Clayton County 4-H Council. The whole family still assists in some way at either the Clayton or Delaware County Fair. Cameron, Carmen, and Craig's spouses were also involved in 4-H as was Caren's fiancée. Greg is currently a member of the Youth Committee, Clayton County 4-H Foundation Committee, and Knights of Columbus. Deb is currently a member of the Clayton County 4-H Foundation Committee and an EMT with the Edgewood Ambulance and Elkport-Garber First Responders. Both are members of St. Mary's, Guttenberg and the Elkport-Garber Community Club. They continue to help the Woodcenter Eagles at the Rodeo Lunch stand as they have for 20 years and also help them set up for the fair. Deb, with Greg's assistance, has been in charge of setting up and taking down the State Fair booth for the past 4 years. Greg farms and does construction work. Deb is an agent/CSR for Community Insurance in Edgewood and Guttenberg and works part time for the Edgewood Livestock Commission.



Clayton County Extension thru a grant from the Clayton County Foundation for the Future is hosting 3 after-school programs in the county this fall. The program will run for 10 weeks.

- Mondays starting September 14 from 3:30-5:30 pm at the Clayton Ridge School in Guttenberg for 4th grade students
- Thursdays starting September 10 from 3:30-5:30 pm at the Central Community School in Elkader for 4th grade students
- Fridays starting September 11 from 3:30-5:30 pm at the MFL Mar Mac School in Monona for 3rd grade students

We need volunteers to help. Any 4-H member is welcome to help with the afterschool program. Call us if you can volunteer for one, two, five or all 10 weeks! The ultimate goal is to enroll these young people in YOUR 4-H club.



Clayton County 4-H Shooting Sports will meet Sunday, September 20 at 1:00 pm at Osborne. You must be enrolled in SESS and have a completed medical form & parent waiver on file to attend. If you have questions concerning Shooting Sports, please contact Daniel Thornton 563-873-1758.



New Member Recruitment

It is that time of the year to work on new 4-H recruits for the coming 4-H year. We need to continually keep our membership alive and growing with new members and new families. Our county 4-H program is top-notch and we need to be sure to share it with others. Personally contact friends or families in your club area and invite them to your next meeting. Get your whole club involved- it is not just the leaders responsibility but each club member's responsibility to help their club grow and prosper. Encourage others to join.



Thank You's Are Important

If you received a trophy at the fair, sold livestock at the auction, or enjoyed some free food or ice cream at the fair, please remember to thank the individuals and businesses who donated time, money and trophies by sending them a thank you note. Hearing from you will ensure the sponsors to keep on supporting the 4-H program and the county fair. The notes do not have to be long, but should express your experiences and feelings. If you need a name or address for your thank you note, contact your club leaders or the Extension Office.



Clover Kid News



Information for Clover Kid members, leaders, and parents.

The Month of September is:

National Apple Month

National Sewing Month

National School Success Month

Children's Good Manners Month

Food Education Safety Month

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

Classical Music Month

Better Breakfast Month

National Courtesy Month



Thank you to all the Clover Kid members for participating at the county fair. We received many wonderful comments about the great job you did! Congratulations on all your accomplishments. It's time to start thinking about next year. What kind of new and exciting things can you explore and learn about? What projects can you make for next year's fair? There are lots of opportunities. Be sure to re-enroll with your club leaders this fall or if you now are a 4th grader get enrolled in a 4-H club. Be sure to invite a friend along too!



Nominations for Adult Awards

Do you know a great volunteer who you feel should be recognized? Do you know someone who has given their time, talents, or resources to help the 4-H program in Clayton County? The Extension 4-H & Youth Committee is looking for nominations for the Honorary 4-H Member Award, 4-H Alumni Award, and Meritorious Service Award. Please contact a Youth Committee member or the Extension Office with your nominations by October 1.

Celebrate 4-H



4-H Week Promotion Contest

Clayton County 4-H Clubs are being encouraged to put together a 4-H display in their community during October to help celebrate National 4-H Week.

Rules & Guidelines:

- Simply set up a 4-H display in your local community – like a school, grocery store, bank, church, store front, etc. Displays can be painted windows, actual displays, posters, etc.
- Make sure to include how to get more information about 4-H – like our 4-H web page or phone number, club and leader contact information., etc.

Criteria for judging will be:

- Does it promote 4-H?
- Does it show the diversity of the 4-H program?
- Does it encourage youth of all ages to join 4-H?
- Is it eye catching?

Displays will be judged during October and the winning display will receive \$25. Please inform the Extension Office by October 1 with the location and dates of your display.



HELP WANTED: Volunteers (leaders, parents, senior 4-H members, 4-H alumni, interested parties, etc.) are needed to help evaluate the 4-H record keeping systems in October. Books & applications need to be evaluated, plus some require a personal interview. If interested in helping, contact Tammy at the Extension Office.

Surveys

Surveys were sent out to all first year members and graduating seniors. Please take a few minutes to fill out these surveys and return to the Extension Office by September 15.

The Leaders Corner

Check out the Iowa 4-H Volunteer website:
www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/volunteers/

Attention 4-H Leaders: The fall 4-H leaders meeting will be held on **Thursday, September 24** from 7-9 pm at Keystone AEA in Elkader. Vanette Grover, Regional Youth Development Program Specialist will be meeting with us to discuss the 4-H Club Quality Rubric. Club enrollment materials will be available at that time and we will share some of the plans for the coming year. All 4-H leaders are encouraged to attend.



Forms Due: Community Service Award Applications, 2009 Club Year Completions and the 2009 Standard 4-H Club Evaluation Forms are due Thursday, October 1st to the Extension Office. Pick up your forms in your club mailboxes.

Leaders: Remember to notify the Extension Office of all club field trips & outings –such as bowling, club tours, overnight events, trips, etc.

State Fair Results:

Name	Division/Ribbon
Andrew Adney	Science, Mechanics & Engineering Blue
Emily Mae Amundson	Food & Nutrition Blue
Hannah Andreae	Photography Blue
Hayle Bockenstedt	Photography Red
Hayle Bockenstedt	Photography Blue
Madi Boehm	Clothing Red
Madi Boehm	Food & Nutrition White
Nick Boehm	Visual Art Blue
Clara Cahoon	Visual Art Blue
Clara Cahoon	Visual Art Red
Jenny Dahling	Home Improvement Blue
Gina Fisher	Personal Development Blue
Natalie Fitzgerald	Food & Nutrition Blue
Nathan Fitzgerald	Science, Mechanics & Engineering Blue
Lauren Foxwell	Photography Blue
Paige Grohn	Child Development Red
Melissa Heims	Visual Art Blue
Melissa Heims	Personal Development Red
Angel Hutchinson	Photography Blue
Kaden Janes	Personal Development Blue
Kaden Jones	Food & Nutrition Red
Madalyn Kerns	Home Improvement Blue
Maddy Kerns	Issues Red
Payson Kerns	Home Improvement Blue
Hunter Lueken	Photography Blue
Amanda Meyers	Home Improvement Blue
Amanda Meyers	Visual Art Blue
Sarah Meyers	Home Improvement Blue
Brandi Miller	Science, Mechanics & Engineering Blue
Emily Moon	Ag & Natural Resources Blue
Ryan Moon	Historical/Family Heritage Certificate
Ryan Moon	Visual Art Blue
Kelby Moose	Home Improvement Blue
Brittani Olinger	Photography Blue
Hannah Powell	Photography Red
Austin Ruff	Food & Nutrition Blue
Jacolyn Sampson	Photography Blue
Zach Sauer	Ag & Natural Resources Blue
Lori Schneider	Photography Red
Angela Sperflage	Photography Blue
Angela Sperflage	Personal Development Red
Lucas Thein	Science, Mechanics & Engineering Blue
Abby Von Handorf	Visual Art Blue
Hannah Von Handorf	Home Improvement Blue
Rachel Wagner	Consumer & Management Red
Rachel Wagner	Visual Art Red
Kristina Walz	Clothing Red
Kristina Walz	Communication - Posters Merit
Kristina Walz	Food & Nutrition Blue
Margo Walz	Food & Nutrition Blue
Kyle Weber	Ag & Natural Resources Blue
Austin Zuercher	Photography Red



Emily Amundson Wins F & N Award at State Fair

Emily Amundson, Elgin received one of the ten cash prizes for an outstanding food and nutrition exhibit at the Iowa State Fair. This award is sponsored by the Iowa Machine Shed of Des Moines and Davenport. Each year the Iowa Machine Shed recognizes talented 4-H members and their outstanding work in the Food & Nutrition project area.

Jaclyn Sampson Wins 4-H Photography Award

Jaclyn Sampson, Colesburg received one of the twenty awards for an outstanding 4-H photography project at the Iowa State Fair. This plaque is sponsored by The Professional Photographers of Iowa.



Iowa 4-H uses the Danish system of judging-rather than competing against someone else, youth challenge themselves to create exhibits that represent their best. The Danish system places exhibits in groups representing standards met. Judging is intended to educate, evaluate, and encourage. Blue exhibits meet all standards well. Red exhibits meet some standards well, but could use improvement on other standards. White exhibits need improvement on many standards or are missing information critical to evaluation. Communication exhibits are rated by certificates of Excellence, Merit and Recognition. The Historical & Family Heritage entries are not ranked by state fair judges because the class is meant to be a cooperative effort between youth and adults. These exhibits are given a certificate of recognition.

State Fair Exhibits

Please pick up your state fair exhibits at the Extension Office.

State Fair

Communications Results

Name	Type	Ribbon
Kendra Moser	EP	
The Dairy Industry	Merit	
Amy Doeppke	EP	
Washington DC	Recognition	
Andrea Glawe	EP	
Almost Candybars	Merit	
Alyssa Kirby	EP	
Got Goat Milk	Recognition	
Abby VonHandorf	EP	
Seed Starting	Excellence	
Darci Eberhardt	EP	
Glass Etching	Merit	
Madelin Medberry	WE	
Pasta Stamping	Excellence	
Gina Fisher &	WE	
Rachel Heims	Merit	
Nail Designs		
Amy Doeppke	WE	
Animal Tracks	Excellence	
Maddy Kerns &	WE	
Melissa Heims	Excellence	
Go Green		
Brianna Sparrgrove	STF	
Arms of An Angel	Participation	
Kaytlan Bockenstedt	STF	
& Trent Moeller I	Participation	
Gotta A Girl		
Mary Ann Gibney	Ext Speaking	
	Excellence	

Congratulations to the dairy judging teams!

The senior team consisting of Gina Fisher, Monica Landsgard, & Jake Mills placed second in the state 4-H dairy judging contest held August 12 at the Iowa State Fair.

The junior team consisting of Catie Lang, Bobby Lang & Tyler Fisher placed 4th overall. Catie placed first individually in the junior division.

State Fair Livestock Results:



Name	Category	Ribbons
Joe Kann	Breeding Beef	Blue
Luke Orr	Breeding Beef	Red
Gina Fisher	Dairy	6 Purple, Grand Champion Brown Swiss, Res. Jr. Champion Jersey & Grand Champion Jersey
Tyler Fisher	Dairy	Purple & Blue
Matt Henkes	Dairy	4 Purple
Jordan Landsgard	Dairy	2 Purple & Blue
Monica Landsgard	Dairy	2 Purple & 2 Blue, Res. Grand Champion Milking Shorthorn
Catheryn Lang	Dairy	Purple & Blue
Robert Lang	Dairy	Purple
Jake Mills	Dairy	Purple & Blue
Alexandra Althoff	Dairy Goats	2 Purple & 3 Blue
Madison Althoff	Dairy Goats	5 Purple & Blue, Grand Champion Rec. Grades, Reserve Best Doe of Show, Res. Grand Champion Rec. Grades
Kayla Gruber	Meat Goats	2 Purple & 2 Blue
Kori Jones	Meat Goats	2 Blues
Amos Troester	Poultry	Purple
Tiffany Faust	Rabbits	5 Blue & Best of Show Breed
Kyle Jones	Rabbits	2 Purple, 4 Blue & 2 Red
Isaac Sauer	Rabbits	2 Purple, 4 Blue & 2 Best of Show
Zach Sauer	Rabbits	2 Purple, 3 Blue, Best of Breed & Best of Show
Brianna Sparrgrove	Rabbits	Blue
Joriann Sparrgrove	Rabbits	Blue & Best of Show Variety
Kaitlyn Olson	Sheep	2 Purple & 2 Blue
Andrew Vlanzy	Sheep	Purple & 7 Blue
Kelsey Vlanzy	Sheep	2 Purple & 4 Blue
Keaton Lane	Swine	Purple, Champion Chester White & Champ Purebred Gilt
Madelin Medberry	Swine	Purple & 3 Red
Kaitlin Orr	Swine	3 Blue
Kennie Orr	Swine	2 Purple, Blue & 2 Red
Madalyn Boehm	Swine	Purple
Nick Boehm	Swine	Purple

CLAYTON COUNTY 4-H CLUB OFFICERS

AWARD APPLICATION FORM

Due in Extension Office -- October 1st

These awards are to be applied for by the officer whose work has been done this past year. Officers may be any age. Materials must be submitted by 4-H'er holding respective office. If more than one office is held by 4-H'er, that individual may apply for only one officer award. A 4-H'er may receive a specific officer award only once.

Name _____ Club _____

Have you ever attended the county club officer training workshop? Yes No

Write at least one paragraph and not more than a one page summary about your experience in the office you held and are submitting the application.

_____ **Club President** -- Write a narrative of club leadership responsibilities. Monthly meeting agenda should be submitted for the current year. Include in application your personal growth in knowledge, citizenship and leadership.

_____ **Club Vice-President** -- Write a narrative of monthly activities including serving as chairperson of the program committee, assisting 4-H'ers in setting up their presentations, introducing program participants, thanking people on programs, and proper conduct of meetings in absence of president. Include in application your personal growth in knowledge, citizenship and leadership.

_____ **Club Secretary** -- Submit secretary's book (minutes of all regular meetings), and maintain record of all officers and committee meetings. Include in application your personal growth in knowledge, citizenship and leadership.

_____ **Club Treasurer** -- Submit treasurer's book, submit summary of income and expenses from monthly meetings. Include in application your personal growth in knowledge, citizenship and leadership.

_____ **Club Historian** -- Submit the Historian's book with current year's information. Include in application your personal growth in knowledge, citizenship and leadership.

_____ **Club Photographer** -- Submit pictures related to club in structured system. Include in application your personal growth in knowledge, citizenship and leadership.

_____ **Club Reporter** -- Include clippings of club meetings & activities in structured system. Include in application your personal growth in knowledge, citizenship and leadership.

_____ **Club Recreation Leader** -- Submit record of recreation activities from each meeting and special events. If more than one recreation leader in club, both may apply for award. Include in application your personal growth in knowledge, citizenship and leadership.

Club Officer Awards will be evaluated on applications only. No interviews will be done.



Clayton County 4-H Awards Application

This form must be included in records submitted for county awards and is due by October 1 to the Extension Office.

Name _____ Club _____

Since this is an awards application for the past year, please give the information as of Sept. 15, 2008

Grade _____ Number of years in 4-H _____ Member Classification Jr. _____ Int. _____ Sr. _____

JUNIOR RECORDKEEPING AWARDS for 4th – 6th Grades only

The junior record keeping award evaluation will be a combination of the 4-H's **COMPLETE** record keeping system and a personal interview. A junior may chose to use pre-printed 4-H forms, computer generated forms, audio tapes, video tapes, or a portfolio as their record keeping system. For the evaluation of the record keeping system, a junior member must include information found in the pre-printed forms listed: a participation guide; title page; yearly summary (4-H 96) or story; and at least one project record (4-H 96 A). Junior members may include any necessary support material (newspaper clippings, pictures, etc). Submit your record book by October 1 to the Extension Office.

The second part of the evaluation process is a personal interview. Please indicate which date/location would best suit you for an interview:

_____ Elkader (October 20) _____ Edgewood (October 26) _____ Elkader (October 29)

___6:30 pm ___7:00 pm ___7:30 pm ___8:00 pm ___8:30 pm ___anytime

INTERMEDIATE & SENIOR RECORDKEEPING AWARDS

The intermediate & senior record keeping award evaluations will be based on the **COMPLETE** record keeping system only. A member may chose to use pre-printed 4-H forms, computer generated forms, audio tapes, video tapes, or a portfolio as their record keeping system. For the evaluation of the record keeping system, a 4-H member must include information found in the pre-printed forms listed below:

- a participation guide;
- title page;
- yearly summary (4-H 96) or story;
- at least two project record (4-H 96 B or C)

A general financial summary (part of 4H B & C) or optional specific worksheets should be completed with projects to record costs of owning or making an item, comparison costs, etc.

Optional Worksheets: Market Beef, Sheep, Swine Worksheet (4H-228), Breeding Beef, Sheep, Swine Worksheet (4H-229), Dairy Animal Project Worksheet (4H-392WS0, Dairy Animal Lifetime Record (4H-393WS), Horse & Pony Project worksheet (4H-512WS), Photography Project Worksheet (4H-643WS), and Laying Flock Project Worksheet (4H-653WS).

Members may include any necessary support material (newspaper clippings, pictures, etc).

PROJECT AWARDS for Intermediates (Grades 7 & 8) & Seniors (Grades 9 – 12)

Separate support material **MUST** be submitted for each award area. A 4-H'er may receive a specific project award only once.

Support material may be submitted in the following options:

Written (up to five pages): May be a story, resume, record or a portion of a record, photos, etc. Format: 8-1/2" x 11", one-side, not less than 10 point font (similar to Arial, Bookman, or Times New Roman).

Video: not more than 10 minutes

Audio: not more than 10 minutes

Support material should include a summary of goals, accomplishments, leadership, and citizenship within the project area and any other material that supports the application.

Please check which project award(s) you are applying for:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aerospace | <input type="checkbox"/> Entomology | <input type="checkbox"/> Poultry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Astronomy | <input type="checkbox"/> Environment | <input type="checkbox"/> Rabbit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Automotive | <input type="checkbox"/> Fashion Revue | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beef | <input type="checkbox"/> Food & Nutrition | <input type="checkbox"/> Science & Technology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bicycle | <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry | <input type="checkbox"/> Self Determined |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Goats (Dairy) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sheep |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Citizenship | <input type="checkbox"/> Goats (Meat) | <input type="checkbox"/> Small Engines |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clothing Selection | <input type="checkbox"/> Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Sport Fishing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clothing, Sewing | <input type="checkbox"/> Home Improvement | <input type="checkbox"/> Swine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication | <input type="checkbox"/> Horse & Pony | <input type="checkbox"/> Tractor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computer | <input type="checkbox"/> Horticulture | <input type="checkbox"/> Vet Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Consumer Management | <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership | <input type="checkbox"/> Visual Arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crop Production | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Welding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dairy Cattle | <input type="checkbox"/> Pets | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dog | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography | <input type="checkbox"/> Woodworking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Electric/Electronics | <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Science | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

SENIOR AWARDS (Grades 9 – 12)

Achievement

Presented to high school students who have attained knowledge of 4-H projects and their contribution to improve family and community living.

Danforth "I Dare You Award"

Presented to youth who have completed 10th or 11th grade and demonstrates leadership qualities, excellence in character, and has potential for future leadership. Applicant must have two or more years of 4-H work, show leadership, citizenship, achievement skills, and an overall excellence in their 4-H career.

Part of the evaluation process for Intermediate & Senior Project Awards is a personal interview to be held on **October 27** at the Extension Office in Elkader. Please indicate a time that would work best:

- 6:30 pm
 7:00 pm
 7:30 pm
 8:00 pm
 8:30 pm
 anytime

Back Page Information

County Award Applications & Books are Due October 1

All 4-H members are encouraged to apply for record keeping system awards and/or project awards. Forms and guidelines are included in this newsletter and are also found on the Clayton County web page www.extension.iastate.edu/clayton/info/awards.htm Please read and follow directions! The deadline to apply is October 1.

There are four basic county award application areas for Clayton County 4-H'ers to compete in.

1. Junior Record Keeping (4th-6th grades) Evaluation will be a combination of the 4-H'ers complete record keeping system and a personal interview.
2. Intermediate & Senior Record Keeping (7th-12th grades) Evaluation will be based on the record keeping system only.
3. Project Awards (7th-12th grades) Evaluation will be a combination of support material and a personal interview.
4. Club Officer Awards (open to 4-H'ers currently holding a local club office) Evaluation is based on support material and a written paragraph about growth & personal development gained.



Clayton County Extension is on the big screen at the Elkader Cinema. If you can identify yourself in a photo in the ad, contact the Extension Office for a prize.

What Makes a Record Book Outstanding?

An outstanding record is a combination of two parts:

- What have you, the 4-H'er, accomplished?
- How well have you recorded your accomplishments?

Neat, Organized, and Complete

Records should be neat, readable, and complete. The sections should be easy to find, and the book organized in a logical fashion. Remember that the newest records should always be on top. Tabs are an excellent way to separate sections. Take care not to glue pages together when gluing photos and clippings.

Consider Writing a 4-H Story

This is not required, but it is a great opportunity to tell about your 4-H year in your own words. It does not have to be long. A couple of paragraphs will be fine.

Tell about Learning

Goals are what you hope to learn throughout the year. A good goal should include what you want to learn, and how you went about learning it. We learn a lot through our mistakes, so don't be afraid to include any mistakes or set-backs in your write-up.

Show Growth Through the Years

You grow and change every year, so should your goals. If your goals are the same for five years in a row, you have not shown any growth.

Accurate

Financial records need to be checked for accuracy. Don't just make up numbers, or copy them from last year.

Start Early

This can be the most difficult part of doing a record book. If you start earlier, it won't be such an over-whelming job. Add to your yearly summary every few months. This will help you to keep track of everything. Glue pictures and clippings on pages, and write the captions. Get together with a few friends and work together. It will be more fun, and you can help each other remember all of your activities.

Get Involved

Outstanding 4-H'ers are involved 4-H'ers. You need to look for opportunities to get involved and do things. Volunteer to serve on committees in your club. Take part in club and county activities. If your club doesn't offer activities, create your own! You can plan and host a workshop for few other 4-H'ers, or plan a volunteer activity. You can take charge of you own 4-H career!

Include Citizenship, Leadership, and Communications

Involvement in these three areas is what really makes a 4-H'er and their record book stand out. Many award decisions come down to what you have included in these sections. If you want to work toward an award in a project area, be sure to look for ways to add leadership, citizenship, and communications. Citizenship is considered a service and can be as simple as raking leaves for someone, or bringing a meal to the elderly. Leadership is when you take charge and lead. You could volunteer to be the chair of a committee, or even start a committee if needed. Communications is as easy as giving an educational presentation to your club.

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University Extension

Clayton County Extension
120 S Main Street
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Elkader, IA 52043

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Clayton County 4-H &
FFA Family Newsletter



4-H...The Power of YOUTH