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# Hardin County Highlight

October 2009



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Dear 4-H Families,

Fall is one of my favorite times of year because of cooler weather, the colors of changing leaves, and fall harvest. October is also the month where we celebrate National 4-H Week!

Don't forget to mark your calendar for our Awards Banquet: November 14<sup>th</sup> at the Youth Building on the Hardin County Fairgrounds. All 4-H'ers and families are welcome and encouraged to come!

Stop by, call, or email if there is anything I can assist you with in your 4-H plans.

Continue to make the best better,

Teresa Perry  
County Youth Coordinator

Wear your 4-H t-shirt on  
**Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>** to  
promote 4-H in Hardin County!

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

October 3	State Rabbit Show at Fairgrounds
October 4-10	National 4-H Week
October 5	4-H Youth Committee meeting
October 6	Wear your 4-H shirt to school
October 17	Pancake Breakfast at Dorothy's Senior Center
October 29	County Council meeting
November 14	Awards Night

## **NATIONAL 4-H WEEK**

**National 4-H Week is October 4-10, 2009** and we want YOU to be a part of it! It's time to celebrate and share what 4-H is all about. So what exactly does that mean? **Celebrate 4-H** - This means we want you to celebrate all of the opportunities, experiences, learning and FUN that happens in 4-H. Encourage others to join 4-H and take advantage of club meetings, fair, projects, camp, community service activities, and fun.

### **4-H DEVELOPMENT FEE**

The statewide 2009-10 4-H Development Fee will be \$30. The Hardin County fee will be \$15 per member. Funds from the 4-H food stand will be used to pay the other \$15. No child will be denied access to 4-H programs based on his or her ability to pay. Please contact Teresa Perry at the Hardin County Extension Office if you are in need of assistance; your request will be kept confidential.

### **INCENTIVES FOR RECRUITMENT**

Hardin County 4-H is offering an incentive to all clubs for recruiting new members to join 4-H. Clubs that increase their membership by 10% will receive a reward of a \$50 pizza party. The 10% increase will be based on the number of members the club paid development fees for in 2009. Clubs have until July 1, 2010 to achieve this. The reward will be awarded at the 2010 Awards Banquet. All clubs are eligible - good luck!

Any member recruiting a new member to join a 4-H club in Hardin County will receive a new 4-H t-shirt. These shirts are brand new to Hardin County and will help show off your 4-H spirit. New members are asked to indicate the “recruiter” on their enrollment form.

### **RE-ENROLLMENT AND MEDICAL FORMS**

All 4-Hers should be receiving their re-enrollment form and a new medical form in the mail. That mailing also includes information on the development fee and a self-addressed stamped envelope to return your completed forms and fee to the Extension Office. Please be sure to look at the form closely and update any changes in address, phone, school or email address. The development fee to participate in 4-H in Hardin County is \$15.00. Enrollment forms, medical release forms and development fees are due to the Extension Office by December 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **WHY DO WE SIGN UP FOR PROJECT AREAS?**

**Q: What is a project? Isn't that what I take to the fair?**

**A:** When you sign up for a project, you are signing up for an area that you would like to learn more about this year – not a fair exhibit. When the fair rolls around, you can take exhibits (an outgrowth of what you learn) in your project areas. However, you are **not** signing up now for what you want to take to fair next summer.

**Q: Why do we sign up for project areas?**

**A:** By signing up for projects now, at the beginning of the new 4-H year, you utilize the whole year to learn about whatever it is that you are interested in! Also, by signing up on your re-enrollment form, the Extension Office knows what areas you are interested in and will give you publications so you can start working on your projects. There is a spot on your re-enrollment form to mark if you are interested in receiving the literature that accompanies the project area.

**Q: What are publications?**

**A:** The 4-H program has tons of information available to help you grow in the areas you are interested in! The publications that you can order are booklets that have fun activities geared towards your age-group that give you more in-depth look at the specifics of your project area.

**Q: There are over 45 project areas I can sign up for. How do I know what they are?**

**A:** The “Pick a Project” paper, updated every year, lists all of the project areas (and publications/books available for each area). You can get these newspapers from your club leader, at the Extension Office, or on our Hardin County 4-H website. ([www.extension.iastate.edu/hardin](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/hardin))

## COUNTY COUNCIL

The next County Council meeting will be Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in Eldora. The County Council will be electing their new officers, discussing the Awards Banquet and a community service activity. If you can't attend, please let Teresa know!

## PIONEER COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT GRANT

Pioneer Hi-Bred International is offering Pioneer Community Improvement Grants through the Iowa 4-H Foundation again this year. Clubs are encouraged to apply for "seed money" to get started on community projects. The brochure, information, and application are on the web at: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/PioneerGrants.html> Applications and support letters for 2010 grants are due in the Hardin County Extension Office on December 1, 2009.



## *YOU ARE INVITED...* **2009 4-H AWARDS BANQUET**



**Who:** All 4-Hers and families, volunteers  
**When:** Saturday, November 14 at 5:30pm  
**Where:** Youth Building on the Fairgrounds  
**Why:** WHY NOT?!?!

4-H'ers, parents, and family are all welcome to the **Awards Banquet, November 14<sup>th</sup>** at the Youth Building at the fairgrounds in Eldora. There will be a potluck meal beginning at 5:30 pm. If you are new to 4-H or have never attended the banquet, consider making this one your first! This is a great time to meet other clubs and families as well as enjoy a delicious meal. Highlights of the evening will be:

- Celebrate 4-H in Hardin County
- Clubs will be recognized on stage to share their 4-H activities of the past year
- Project Awards and Senior Awards Trip will be announced
- Recognition of Leaders, Youth Committee, and Fair Board members
- Installation of County Council members

### **AWARDS BANQUET MEAL**

**If your last name starts with the following letter, please bring:**

**A-M = Main dish and side dish/salad**

**N-Z = Main dish and dessert**

**Drink, plates, cups, silverware and napkins will be furnished.**

### CLUB DOOR PRIZES

Each club is responsible for making two centerpieces for our table decorations at the Awards Banquet. They will be given away that evening as our door prizes. Now's the time to be creative! You can make a candy dish, flower arrangement, assortment of chocolate, lotions, soaps, and so much more! There are no limitations to a creative mind!

## CITIZENSHIP WASHINGTON FOCUS TRIP

**Who:** 4-H members currently in 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> grades

**Date:** June 4 – 13, 2010

**Cost:** \$1,400

Webster, Hamilton, Humboldt, Hardin and Wright counties team up for this once in a lifetime trip to the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland. Time will be spent in Washington D.C., at the National 4-H Center and other capital city locations, with travel time on both ends of the trip. Some of the sites being planned for this trip include the Holocaust Museum, a trip to Gettysburg and a dinner theater. Over 250 4-H members from several states will attend the CWF conference the same week. This is an outstanding opportunity and a great way to meet new friends from across the country.

**Registration and a deposit of \$300 is due by October 30<sup>th</sup>** (payable to Webster County Extension) to the Hardin County Extension Office. The application form can be found online at:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/hardin/kidsteens.htm>



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**THIS IS YOUR 4-H NEWSLETTER!**