



JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2011

*Reminder of **Beef Weigh-In** this Saturday, January 8th from 9-11 at the Cow Palace in Forest City and the Aukes/Balvance Farm in Buffalo Center*

Email me your favorite 4-H pictures to be put in the 4-H newsletter or on the Winnebago County Facebook page!! Email to jthomsen@iastate.edu.)

PicoCricket Workshop for Lego club members

January 8, 2011, 9:00 a.m.—Noon is a special workshop for all members of the Lego clubs in the area. It will be held at the Water's Edge Nature Center. Pre-registration by Jan. 5 is required. The Pico-Cricket Kit is similar to the LEGO MINDSTORMS robotics kits. MINDSTORMS is designed especially for making robots, while the PicoCricket Kit is designed for making artistic creations with lights, sound, music and motion. If you would like to find out more about the Lego club (which uses the MINDSTORM kits) or would be interested in joining this group, contact Jamie at the office.

Winnebago County 4-H Block & Bridle

Are you interested in joining a specialty 4-H club exclusively related to livestock? Would you like to expand your knowledge and participate in more events related to livestock? If so, please come to the informational meeting about the new club starting up in Winnebago County on Sunday, January 16th at 2:30pm at the Extension Office. The Winnebago County 4-H Block and Bridle Club plans to participate in judging contests, Iowa Pork Congress, Spring Barrow Show, horse clinics, Parade of Champions at our county fair and helping to organize the Livestock Clinic. 4-H Block and Bridle will include all species, including beef, swine, horse, goat, sheep, and rabbit.

Winnebago County Ice Skating

ICE SKATING in Albert Lea
(701 Lake Chapeau Drive)

Sunday, February 20th from 6:30-8:00pm

\$2/person (includes skate rental)

Family Fun Night

Are you and your family looking for some family time during these cold winter months? If so, come to Family Fun Night at the Forest City YMCA on Saturday, January 29th or February 26th from 6 to 8:30 pm. The evening begins with pizza followed by a variety of family activities. All the activities are FREE of charge. An RSVP is required to assist with plans for the food and activities. Please call the Winnebago County Extension Office by Thursday prior to Family Fun Night.



State 4-H Website

www.extension.iastate.edu/4h - This is a great tool for 4-H members, prospective members, families and volunteers. They will continuously be updating the information in this site, so check it often. There are even games to enjoy as well as great opportunities that 4-H

Get your enrollment forms in!!

State Recognition and Trips

Get more involved in 4-H and expand your horizons! If you are a ninth through twelfth grader, there are many opportunities available to you for recognition awards or to represent Iowa in upcoming conferences on the state and national levels. These include: National 4-H Conference (for 9th- 11th grade); National 4-H Congress (for 10th-11th grade); State 4-H Council (10th-11th grade); Iowa Youth Technology Team (9th-11th grade); National 4-H Dairy Conference (9th - 12th grade); and State 4- H Project Awards (9th-12th grade). Contact your county extension office to find out more information about each of these awards or trips. If you would like to apply, a packet of information is available on line at www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/teens/awards.htm or

at the Extension Office. The state selection process for the above opportunities will involve: completing an application form including 5 short answer questions; gathering and putting together 2 pages of written support material (see the application for format); an interview at the state level. The application deadline is February 1. The state interviews are scheduled for March 26 in Ames.

2011 Iowa 4-H Scholarships

Information is now available on the 2011 Iowa 4-H Scholarship Program. As a high school senior, you may be eligible to apply for one or more of the 4-H scholarships awarded to 4-H'ers who will be college freshmen in the fall of 2011.

If you are planning to continue your education next year, please check with us about available 4-H scholarships, eligibility requirements, and the application process. **It is important to check eligibility carefully. Some scholarship programs have specific college major, place of residence, and/or participation requirements.**

There are opportunities for students pursuing any course of study, as well as some specific agriculture and home economics scholarships at both four-year and community colleges in Iowa. More than 100 scholarships totaling over \$100,000 will be awarded to Iowa 4-H'ers.

If interested, you will need to complete a special 4-H application, transmittal form, secure two letters of recommendation per instructions, and attach a current grade transcript of your school records through fall 2010. 4-H Scholarship information, forms, and applications are available from the Extension office and also on the Iowa 4-H public web page: www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/teens/scholarships.htm.

The completed application, including two letters of recommendation and current grade transcript, must be received on site or postmarked no later than February 1, 2011 for consideration. We suggest you plan ahead, allowing time to carefully complete the application materials.

Iowa 4-H Youth Conference

Attention all 4-Her's, grades 8-12! Come and experience the Iowa 4-H Youth Conference held in Ames at Iowa State University. You will be able to attend workshops and participate in community service. Or, maybe you would like to attend animal science round-up and choose various animals such as sheep, beef, dairy, horse or swine to study. Have fun in the evenings going to a formal banquet at Hilton Coliseum, dances, swimming, and a picnic. During the three day conference, experience dorm life and make new friends from across the state. You don't have to be in 4-H to attend, so if you have friends you would like to invite – bring them along! Contact your local extension office for more information.

State Leaders' Retreat Registration Available

The 2010 State Volunteer Retreat scheduled for Friday and Sat., February 11 & 12, centrally located at the DMACC facility in Ankeny. The retreat will bring together 4-H volunteers, staff, parents, and intermediate and senior 4-H members to network and learn about innovative programs that will help bring fresh perspectives and activities to Iowa 4-H programs. Friday evening is a networking/ fellowship type gathering with hands-on activities. Workshops and networking fill the day on Saturday, February 27. A wide variety of workshop sessions will meet the needs of both new and experienced volunteers, staff, and 4-H'ers. The registration cost is \$10 before 1/21 or \$15 1/22 to 28th. Contact the Extension Office for more information on this great event. If you plan to go, we will carpool rides and offer some help on registration cost.

4-H Day at the ISU Women's Basketball



The Iowa 4-H Foundation is hosting a 4-H Day at the Iowa State Women's basketball game versus Texas A & M on Saturday, Jan. 22, 2011 at Hilton Coliseum in Ames. Ticket price is just \$15 per person! The pre-game tail-gate will be held at Scheman with a brunch from 8-11 AM. The past two years they have entertained 1,000 4-H members, volunteers, staff, and families each year. Order Tickets and submit t-shirt sizes here <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/explore/isuwbb>

Questions – email Shelly Greving at shellyg@iastate.edu.



Project Materials

You will not be receiving a stack of project materials as in the past. Instead, you can go to: (www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects). From here you can select the project you are interested in learning more about. A set of Hot Sheets has been created for each project area. These are a great resource with ideas for educational presentations, fair exhibits, community service, record keeping forms and links to resources. Still want to peek at the project materials? Stop by the Extension Office.

COOL and 4-H Livestock

COOL has been implemented by the USDA and is MANDATORY for all species of livestock sold and consumed by the public. If you have questions about what needs to be done visit <http://www.iowabeefcenter.org/content/COOL/COOL%20Forms.doc> or call the Extension Office.



4-H Enrollment and Health Release Forms are due in the Extension Office ASAP!!

January

- 8 Beef Weigh-In
- 8 Regional First Lego League Event 9am-12pm
- 16 County Council—4pm
- 29 Family Fun Night—FC YMCA

February

- 1 2011 4-H Scholarships Due
- 20 Winnebago County 4-H Skating Party
- 20 County Council Meeting—4 pm
- 26 Family Fun Night
- 28 Spring Volunteer Training

March

- 20 County Council Meeting

April

- 9 Sheep Weigh-In

If you haven't turned your enrollment form into the Extension Office yet, please take a few moments to do this important task. All 4-H'ers must re-enroll each year. It is necessary to do so to ensure that all project and event information, pertaining to a 4-H member is getting to them efficiently. Please note: Along with the enrollment form, a new Medical Release Form for each member must be filled out each year, as well as the \$15 membership fee. Remember there is free enrollment for first year 4-H members. If you have any questions about these forms/fee please call the office or your club leader.

Winnebago County Extension

PO Box 47
Thompson, IA 50478
Address Service Requested



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.

