



Kossuth *4-H News*

NEWS FOR 4-H FAMILIES

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2011

Dates to Remember

(If you need more information about any of the events listed, contact the office at 515-295-2469)

NOVEMBER

- 30 Extension Council Meeting, 7 pm, Ext. Office
- 21 Live Greeting Card window in Algona
- 24-25 OFFICE CLOSED – Happy Thanksgiving
- 28 Youth Committee Meeting, 7 pm. office

DECEMBER

- 1 Holiday cards due at State Office
- 5 Pioneer Grants apps. due at Extension Office
- 15 Complete online enrollment if at all possible
- 23-26 OFFICE CLOSED - HAPPY HOLIDAYS
- 28 Extension Council meeting

JANUARY

- 2 OFFICE CLOSED - New Year's Day Holiday
- 3 Friends Grants application due in office
- 14 Beef weigh in, 9 am -noon, Algona Livestock



Notes From the Extension Staff

This issue of the Kossuth 4-H newsletter will find many of us thinking about the holiday season for November and December. From the entire staff at Kossuth Extension we want to wish all a joyous holiday season.

Now is the time to get enrolled and set goals for the 4-H year. With the support of volunteers, parents and Extension Staff we hope to have the opportunity for many fun learning experiences this year!

Sincerely,

Jean A. Kent
County Youth Coordinator



4-H Website Addresses

Remember to check out our website at:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/kossuth/>

Click on Kids and teens/4-H. This site is the Iowa 4-H page: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/>.

Consider checking out and bookmarking these sites.

Happy Holidays!

Please share this information with new 4-H members, as they have not been added to the mailing list yet.

Welcome new members

We welcome the new 4-H families that have joined so far this year. It is easy for new families to get overwhelmed so please ask questions! Contact the office or your leader if needed. We will have a New Member meeting in January.

4-H Recognition Sunday was a success!

The 4-H county council and staff felt that overall 4-H Recognition Sunday was a big success. We were pleased with the attendance and participation. Thanks to all who made this day happen!

2011-2012 Kossuth 4-H County Council

CONGRATULATIONS to the 2011-12 4-H County Council. Amanda Anderson, Lotts Creek L & L; Ryan Borchardt, Fenton Progressors; Jeff Burdick, Prairie Future Farmers; Kelsey Gerhart, Fenton Forwards; Meridith Heinold, Kossuth Achievers; Allison Hurlburt, Fenton Forwards; Zach Hurlburt, Fenton Progressors; Sierra Hutchinson, Fenton Forwards; Stormie Johanson, Greenwood 4-H'ers; Garrett Johnson, Co-Ed Kids; Brandon Kollasch, Co-Ed Kids; Rachel Lium, Greenwood 4-H'ers; Melanie Mergen, Prairie 4-H; Johnny Studer, Prairie 4-H; Allison Thilges, Kossuth Achievers; Alyssa Thilges, Kossuth Achievers; Jeni Zeller, Riverdale Rustlers. They were installed on 4-H Recognition Sunday, Oct.23, but helped the old council this summer. If you need help or have ideas to share, please contact one of these members.

Award Winners Announced

We salute the 4-H'ers who were recognized during 4-H Recognition Sunday on October 23rd for their outstanding achievements during the 4-H year. Special congrats go to Brooke Preston for being selected for the Outstanding 4-H'er Award. Other special award winners include: Ak-Sar-Ben – Rachel Lium; I Dare You – Stormie Johanson & Brooke Preston. Merit – Meridith Heinold, Rachel Lium, Brooke Preston; Achievement – Stormie Johanson. We acknowledge also, with great appreciation, the many adult volunteers who were recognized for giving willingly of their time and energy so that the 4-H program can have an impact on the lives of young people. Dean Dodds received 4-H Alumni Award and Dave Miller received the Honorary 4-H Award. We thank everyone who attended 4-H Recognition Sunday to honor those recognized.

Fair Date and changes

The 2012 Kossuth County Fair will be held **July 31** (judging day) – **August 5**. Remember next year will be the second year of the fair book so we do not plan to make major changes. If you would like the Youth Committee to consider changes, they must be submitted in writing to the Extension Office by November 15.

4-H recruitment

It is not too late to invite your friends to join 4-H or visit your next 4-H club meeting. 4-H'ers are encouraged to recruit new members for their 4-H club. The best way to get new members to join is by your enthusiasm and encouragement. Consider asking a friend to join they may join any time during the year, but must enroll before May 1 to exhibit at the fair.

Enrollments fill it out online!

We did a prize drawing for members who enrolled online by Recognition Sunday and the winner was **Hailey Schmidt** from the Lotts Creek Lassies & Lads. If not done, we would like to encourage you to complete your enrollment and re-enrollment forms by Dec. 15. You go to this website: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/kossuth/kidsteens.htm> Here you will find an instruction sheet copy and simply follow the sheet. If you do it online, it will be completely paper free. You may also stop in the office and Jean will help you with the process, but then you will have to fill out the medical form and ethic forms in paper form. Feel free to contact Jean if you have any problems or concerns. Watch the next newsletter for information on online livestock ID too.

Sweatshirt Bag Workshop Dec. 3

The Thilges family has agreed to offer a workshop on how to make bags out of sweatshirts on Sat. Dec. 3 at 9 am. You are welcome to bring your own sweatshirt, but we do have some on hand. We will also have some sewing machines. We will let you make two, one to give to the CARE Team and one you can take home. Those with minimum sewing skills might want to bring an older mentor to help. You must sign up by Nov. 28. Let us know if you are bringing a sweatshirt, helper or sewing machine.



Citizenship Washington Focus 2012

Citizenship Washington Focus 2012 is a nine-day trip for 4-H youth in grades 10, 11 and 12. The trip provides a setting to experience leadership and citizenship in a whole different way at the National 4-H Center. Youth who have participated in previous trips returned to report that it was the single most educational highlight of their 4-H career. Participants can select either June 8 - 16 or June 15 - 23 to attend the trip. 4-H'ers and adult chaperones will travel by chartered bus to Washington D.C. Some highlights of the trip are: Lincoln's home in Springfield, Gettysburg Battlefield, Capitol Hill, Smithsonian Museums, Mount Vernon and Kennedy Center. Beside tours and workshops, you'll have time for socializing and meeting new friends. The trip fee is \$1,370. This includes lodging, transportation, tour site admissions, and most meals. Registration and a \$350.00 deposit will be required to secure a spot. Registration opens October 1, 2011 and closes December 15, 2011. To learn more about the trip and to get registration information (which can be done online) visit: www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/cwf.

4-H Day at the ISU Women's Basketball Game!

The Cyclones will tip off at 7pm against Texas A&M on January 14, 2012. A dinner tailgate will be provided from 4:30-7pm at the Scheman Building before tip off. This year's price to attend is \$20 per person. New for 2012 is a "4-H Leads to Careers" tour hosted by the College of Human Sciences. (Limited to the first 300 who sign up). Gather your club members and get ready to have some fun and cheer on the Cyclones. Purchase tickets by contacting Shelly Greving at shellyg@iastate.edu or 515-294-1607.

Live Greeting Card participants wanted.

The Algona Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring live greeting card displays in Algona on Monday, Nov. 21 from 6:30 to 8 pm. Many clubs have enjoyed doing this in past years and we encourage your club to put together your own greeting. It is a fun community service project. Contact the Chamber (295-7201) for more info or sign up your club.

Photo challenge fair class

This year the subject matter is "New Life" so think of creative ways to show that thought a photo or when you have the camera ready. Use your imagination, could be a birth, something growing or start of a project. New members might want to get details on this fair exhibit class online or ask your leader.

Beef weigh in dates scheduled

The first and only beef weigh in will be held Saturday, Jan. 14. Weigh-in be held from 9 to noon at the Algona Livestock Auction & Exchange. If you only plan to come at the county fair, there is no cost. The Kossuth County Cattlemen will pay for your ear tags. If you want to show at State Fair or Ak-Sar-Ben or other shows, you must have your calf scanned, DNA sampled and ID forms filled out. The cost for state is \$5 and an additional \$6 for Ak-Sar-Ben each. If you plan on showing a breed steer at state, be sure to have their registration number, their tattoo, and their sire information that day. Breeding heifers can come and have their tattoo checked too if you are bringing market beef. This would save you hauling them in the spring.

Second year bucket calf

If you plan to show a second year bucket calf as a market animal, you must bring that calf to the beef weigh in. If it was a bucket calf last year and you plan to show it as a dairy or breeding animal, it does not need to come to weigh in but must be indentified that way by May 15.

Derby swine & beef carcass exhibitors

We want to encourage derby swine and beef carcass exhibitors from the last fair to send "Thank You" notes to the county Pork (Dave Bjustrom) and Beef (Todd Stowater) Producers for the extra effort in helping with our shows this past year. The Pork Producers paid the scanning fee for all derby swine entries and the Cattlemen provided the weighing, and equipment for our beef carcass show and all cattle ear tags. We really appreciate their support.

COOL and 4-H Livestock

What 4-H'ers Need to Do: The Iowa COOL Coalition has come up with a simple affidavit that can work for all species of livestock (beef, sheep, swine, poultry, goat). This affidavit is located at: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/Agriculture/documents/cool.doc> Page 1 explains the steps needed to be taken as well as example documents that can be used for an audit trail. Page 2 is the actual affidavit.

4-H'ers who raise their own livestock for their projects need to fill this affidavit out and keep it on file for a minimum of two years. In the case of an audit, 4-H'ers can provide authorities with this affidavit along with other documents listed at the bottom of page 1 of the affidavit document (birth records (calving report, PigChamp, PigTales, etc.), purchase/sales receipts, etc.)

4-H'ers who purchase their livestock from others **MUST have the producer fill out the affidavit, give it to the 4-H'er, and the 4-H'er should keep the affidavit on file for a minimum of two years. For example, a 4-H'er goes to buy his steer from a producer. The 4-H'er needs the producer (seller) to fill out and sign the affidavit.**

Equine helmets

All exhibitors and riders are required to wear an approved equine helmet in all riding classes and any time they are mounted at any 4-H Horse show or event.

Rural youth loans available

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency (FSA) will make operating loans to all 4-H and FFA members to establish and operate any kind of income-producing projects. Contact the FSA at 515-295-3541 for more information or a loan application.

Farm Bureau livestock insurance

FB understands that 4-H'ers put a lot of time and energy into raising livestock so they want to offer insurance to protect your investment. For more information call 800-843-9413 or this website: <http://www.fbfs.com/4HandFFAAnimal>

District fairs

4-H livestock exhibitors can show at the district fairs in Hancock, Humboldt, Pocahontas & Wright Counties. You must follow their rules (look on their county websites) and make entries with them to attend.



Friends grants due January 3

This local grant is similar to the Pioneer grant that provides seed money to any youth community service project. Grants are due four times a year (January, April, July & October). For youth groups (not just 4-H) planning a comm. service project and need seed dollars. Contact your leader, the office or check our web site for details and a application.

Pioneer grants are due December 5

Pioneer grant applications are due Dec. 1 at the Extension Office. This grant would be a good financial opportunity to help your club with their community service project. The brochure, information, and application are on the web at: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/serve/grants.htm>

4-H Shooting Sports Activities

The Kossuth Shooting Sports club has had an active and successful year and will be able to utilize the new shooting range in the 4-H building on the Fairgrounds in Algona even more this winter. This winter they will be shooting air rifle, .22 rifle and archery indoors. Please contact Kris Laubenthal at vkfarms@awcmail.com or 515-341-0730 for more details.

Fall Volunteer Training

Kossuth County will hold their Fall Volunteer Training on Tuesday, Nov. 15 at the Extension Office. We will start at 6:15 with pizza meal; meeting starting at 7pm. The target audience for this training is all 4-H volunteers who are committed to a long term experience with youth (club leaders & assistant leaders, project leaders & assistant leaders, Clover Kids leaders & assistant leaders). The topic is the Essential Elements piece of our formula and addresses those important elements that make for successful clubs/Clover Kids groups and successful caring adults. **New this fall:** The Fall Volunteer Training is the **only** campus generated training this year for current volunteers. Attendance will be recorded in 4-H Online and fulfills the volunteer training requirement. (reduced from two trainings as in previous years). We will have an online & DVD version again for those volunteers unable to attend the face-to-face training. Register by Friday, Nov. 11 so we have an idea of how much pizza to order. Mark your calendars and plan to attend!

Winter Hullabaloo

Join us at the Iowa 4-H Center for a winter wonderland celebration December 28-30th. Youth, ages 8-12, can come and spend three days, two nights at camp during their winter break. Campers will enjoy snow tubing (weather pending), winter night hikes, lots of crafts, games, and more. We will 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.iowa4hcamp.com.

Consider helping

Parents and older club members are often needed by club leaders to give assistance to their 4-H club members. Not everyone can be a club leader, but many of you have the time to volunteer to assist with one task or another throughout the year. Ask your leaders what they need help with; it might be helping with a field trip or tour, teaching a craft/activity at a club meeting or reminding members of club and county deadlines.

Ski Day price break available to 4-H

4-H discounts for Mount Kato/Afton Alps ski areas are often offered for certain days in early December. This needs to be a group order. For more information, check their website or e-mail them directly at mail@mountkato.com.

Scholarship opportunities

4-H scholarships from the National and State offices for 4-H'ers are available on the web. For more information go to: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/teens/scholarships.html> or stop at the Extension Office. Site should be available early November so check back often if not available now. Most applications are due February 1.

State 4-H Leader's Retreat

State 4-H Leader's Retreat will be held on Feb. 10-11 in Ankeny! Watch for more details and plan to attend.

Holiday cards for 4-H donors

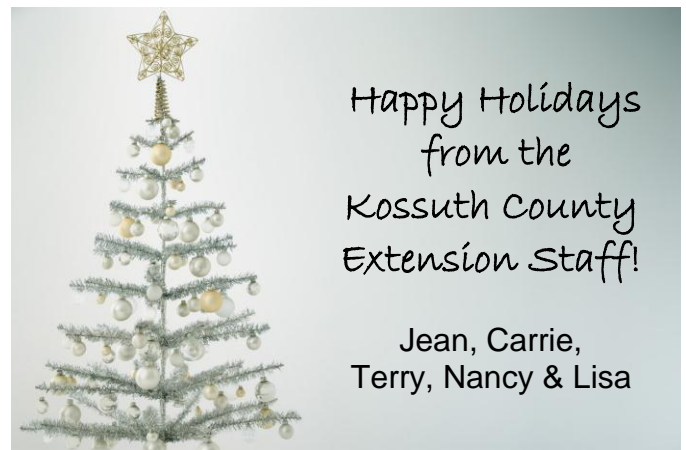
During the holiday season 4-H'ers and 4-H clubs often take time to share their talents through local citizenship activities. One opportunity you may wish to consider is the making of holiday cards for the Iowa 4-H Foundation. These cards will be mailed to individuals and families who are major donors to the Iowa 4-H program. Cards are to be handmade by 4-H'ers. To help us keep postage down this year, please make the cards the equivalent of about 1/4 of a normal 8 1/2" x 11" page (think of a piece of construction paper folded in half, and then in half again) Mail them to the Iowa 4-H Foundation, Extension 4-H Youth Building, ISU, Ames IA 50011-3630, by December 1.

Iowa 4-H Youth Conference 2012

The theme for the 2012 Iowa 4-H Youth Conference is: **Brighten Your World**. Please mark your calendars now for this event June 26-28 if you are in 8th-12th gr, and plan to attend.

Great gift ideas available

If you are looking for gift idea, we have 4-H mugs and 2012 Garden calendars available for purchase at the Extension Office



Happy Holidays
from the
Kossuth County
Extension Staff!

Jean, Carrie,
Terry, Nancy & Lisa