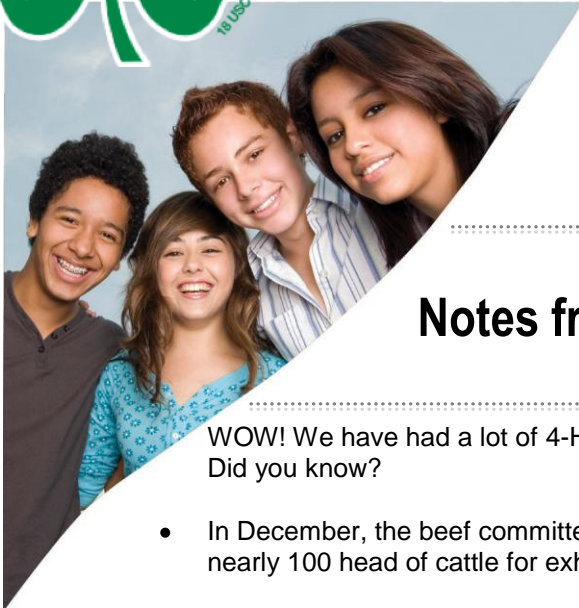




CLOVERLEAF CONNECTION



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION
DICKINSON COUNTY
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Notes from the Office...

WOW! We have had a lot of 4-H activity since our last newsletter. Did you know?

- In December, the beef committee weighed, tagged, and verified nearly 100 head of cattle for exhibit at the county fair.
- The “Make & Take” 4-H project workshops generated many holiday wreaths, fleece caps & mittens that we’ll see at fair.
- The pajama party and movie night sponsored by the youth council collected over 20 sets of kids pajamas for CAASA.
- The NEW 4-H Lego League Robotics Clubs from Okoboji and Spirit Lake competed at the South Dakota State Competition!
- We welcomed 125 students to 4-H as part of the 9-week Ricochet Leadership Program in the Spirit Lake Middle School.
- Enrollment has grown to 266 members in the Dickinson County 4-H Program. (That’s 50 more than last year and the largest enrollment we’ve had in the past 10+ years.) Way to go!

Please read on for more upcoming 4-H opportunities. For those of you enrolled in some of our specialty-type programs, such as Ricochet, Lego League, Shooting Sports, etc... you are meeting all of the requirements to be a 4-H member and as such, you are eligible to participate in all that 4-H has to offer. Please watch the deadlines and any project specific requirements as they are announced. Our county web page is a great place to find more information www.extension.iastate.edu/dickinson

As always, if you have questions or need assistance, please feel free to contact the Extension Office at 712-336-3488.

Your Friends In 4-H,
Dickinson County Extension Staff



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“Make & Take” workshop participants create holiday wreaths; learn design elements & art principles; and complete an exhibit for 2011 County Fair!

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
University Extension



FEBRUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan 31 Ricochet Leadership Program starts
- 11-12 State 4-H Volunteer Retreat in Ankeny
- 13-20 Iowa Beef Expo in Des Moines
- 14 Safety & Education Shooting Sports (SESS) Club Introduction Night at the Expo Center, 7PM
- 15 SESS Archery in the Expo, 7PM
- 17 Family Storyteller starts in Lake Park
- 20 County Youth Council Mtg., 7PM

MARCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 12 Regional 4-H Volunteer Retreat in Okoboji
- 14 SESS Rifle in the Expo, 7PM
- 15 SESS Archery in the Expo, 7PM
- 20 County Youth Council Mtg., 7PM
- 21 Lego League Intro Night, 7PM
- 21-25 Extension Week Celebrations
- 26-27 Iowa 4-H Horse Jamboree, Ames

APRIL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 2 Market Swine Weigh-in, Tagging, and Identification (On site by appointment.)
- 11 SESS Rifle in the Expo, 7PM
- 16 Market Sheep & Goat Weigh-in, Tag, & ID (At the Fairgrounds)
- 17 County Youth Council Mtg., 7PM
- 19 SESS Archery in the Expo, 7PM
- 25 Food Safety Quality Assurance (FSQA) Training in the Spirit Lake Community Building, 1PM – 3PM

SAFETY EDUCATION & SHOOTING SPORTS - SESS

We are ready to start our new year with the Safety Education & Shooting Sports (SESS) 4-H Club. Participation in these activities is available to any 4-H member enrolled in a current club or any 4-H member wishing to enroll in the SESS Club as their primary club.

On **Monday, February 14th at 7PM in the Expo Center** we will be hosting an “Introduction Night” for kids and parents to come learn about the 3 main shooting activities we have available – Rifle, Archery, and Shotgun – as well as the objectives for shooting sports:

- Learn safe and responsible use of firearms and archery equipment including sound decision making, self-discipline, and concentration.
- Promote the highest standards of safety, sportsmanship, and ethical behavior.
- Encourage understanding of our natural resources and the development of a personal environmental stewardship ethic through participation in shooting, hunting, and related activities.

The SESS Club will meet as follows:

- 2nd Monday each month for Rifle
- 3rd Tuesday each month for Archery
- TBD for Shotgun when weather warms up

We currently have 4 leaders for the SESS group:

- Chris Hoerichs
- Tim Hoerichs
- Harvey DeGraw
- Kyle Englund

If you have questions about the Safety Education & Shooting Sports program, please contact Chris Hoerichs at 712-338-9449.



4-H Shooting Sports
Learn by Doing

MISSION STATEMENT

4-H EMPOWERS YOUTH TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL WORKING AND LEARNING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CARING ADULTS



RICOCHET WELCOME

Welcome Spirit Lake 6th graders! Thanks to financial support from MaxYield and the Dickinson County Endowment Fund, each of you will be receiving a monthly 4-H newsletter. Enjoy!

You will be participating in a hands-on interactive leadership development adventure one day a week for nine weeks beginning the week of Jan 31st.

You still have time to turn in your enrollment form and receive a FREE Ricochet T-shirt. See Mrs. Horsman or call our office at 336-3488.

FAMILY STORYTELLER BEGINS

The Family Storyteller program is designed for families with pre-school, kindergarten and first grade children. It is a literacy program that improves the amount and quality of time families spend together doing literacy activities.

The program starts **February 17th** and will be held on 6 Thursday nights at the Lake Park Public Library. A light meal, childcare and program will be provided free of charge. Pre-registration is required by contacting the office or stopping by the library. Thank you to the Silver Lakers 4-H Club for providing the childcare for this program.

LEGO CLUB CONGRATULATIONS & INVITATION

What do the following have in common?
Bionic eyes. Bone repair. Blood screening. Destruction of bad cells. Installation of a pacemaker.

They are topics the DC Waverunners 4-H Club members have been learning about with their LEGO robots since Labor Day.



As two parts of a new Dickinson County 4-H technology club, DC Waverunners, Okoboji and Spirit Lake teams have been building, researching, practicing, and tweaking their designs and presentations to show judges all they have learned this "Body Forward" themed season.



On January 15, 2011 the two 4-H teams competed in the South Dakota State First Lego League Championship held in Sioux Falls. They achieved personal best scores in four different categories: robot design, research presentation, teamwork challenges, and timed robot challenges.

On March 21st from 6:30-8:00PM at the Okoboji Middle School, the Waverunners Clubs will be hosting an "Introduction Night" for interested youth, parents and volunteers to find out more about First Lego League. They will be sharing information and forming First Lego League Teams for fall 2011 competitions.

To volunteer to coach or register a child to participate, please contact Wade Weber at our office at 712-336-3488 or send an email to wadewbr@iastate.edu



OUR VISION

A WORLD IN WHICH YOUTH AND ADULTS LEARN, GROW, AND WORK TOGETHER AS CATALYSTS FOR POSTIVE CHANGE



LEADER INFORMATION

Attention 4-H Club Leaders!

We have retreats and training opportunities coming up for you on a state and regional level. These are great opportunities for you to connect with other volunteer leaders from across the state, as well as gain fun new ideas for working with your clubs.

The State Leader's Retreat will be February 11-12 in Ankeny and the Regional Retreat is March 12 here in Okoboji.

Please contact the Extension Office at 336-3488 for details and registration information for either or both leader retreats.

Clubs – please consider helping to sponsor your leader(s) attendance at these retreats. It would be a nice “Thank You” to your leaders for all they do throughout the year to volunteer their time and talents with you and your fellow club members.

IOWA 4-H HORSE JAMBOREE

Come join the excitement **March 26 & 27** in Ames. The Youth Horse Jamboree is an opportunity for youth to participate in a host of activities. From hippology to quiz bowl, public speaking, and horseless horse projects including photography, visual arts, woodworking, creative writing, and others.

For more information, please visit the Iowa 4-H Horse Jamboree website at:
www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/agriculture/documents/jamboreeflyer.pdf

FOOD SAFETY QUALITY ASSURANCE (FSQA)

The State 4-H Food Safety & Quality Assurance (FSQA) requirements have expanded due to packer demands for producers. Since 4-H projects contribute millions of pounds of food into the food chain each year, youth fall under the same food safety and quality assurance guidelines as adult producers.

FSQA requirements affect:

- All 4-H **SWINE** exhibitors
- All 4-H **BEEF** exhibitors (market & breeding)
- All 4-H **SHEEP** exhibitors (market & breeding)
- All 4-H **GOAT** exhibitors (market & breeding)
- All 4-H **DAIRY** exhibitors
- All 4-H **POULTRY** exhibitors
- All 4-H **RABBIT** exhibitors

The FSQA Requirements differ by grade level:

- Youth in 4th – 6th grades must attend training each year.
- Youth in grades 7-12 may train each year or may test out.

Dickinson County FSQA Training will be at the Spirit Lake Community Building on **Monday, April 25th from 1:00-3:00PM**. Testing will begin at 1:30 in the Extension Office for those wishing to test out. Please call the office to register for either option.

If you are unable to attend FSQA Training on this date, you may attend in another county; however, you need to contact our office to pre-register. Other possible FSQA Training dates include:

- Osceola February 26 or March 5
- Clay March 27, 4-6PM
- Buena Vista April 11, 6:30PM
- O'Brien April 16, 9-11AM
- Plymouth April 25, 1:30-3:30PM
- Clay May 16, 6-8PM
- Cherokee June 1, 6-8PM
- Plymouth June 2, 7-9PM
- Dickinson June 13, 1-3PM

Youth wishing to Test Out, but unavailable on April 25th, please call the office at 336-3488 to set up a date & time.



MARKET SWINE WEIGH-IN & IDENTIFICATION

Please mark **Saturday, April 2nd** on your calendars for weigh-in, tagging, and identification of market swine.

Especially, for those of you new to this project area we want to explain the process and rules so you can plan ahead accordingly:

- Swine Committee Members will call you as the date gets closer to set up a time to come to your farm to tag your pigs and weigh any you want in the derby contest.
- It is extremely important that you have enrolled in the swine project area if you plan to bring pigs to the fair. This is the only way the committee knows who to contact. If you question your enrollment, please call the office at 336-3488.

NOTE: ALL SWINE WILL BE TAGGED WITHIN A 3-DAY WINDOW OF FRIDAY, APRIL 1ST - SUNDAY, APRIL 3RD. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS! THIS RULE PROVIDES FAIRNESS TO ALL EXHIBITORS. PLAN AHEAD NOW TO HAVE PIGS PURCHASED AND ON-SITE IN TIME.

2011 Market Swine Rules:

1. Exhibitors may identify up to 20 head of market pigs. Derby swine are included in this total. Market pigs may be spot checked to insure proper identification.
2. Pigs identified as FFA projects must be shown as FFA pigs, likewise, pigs ID'd as a 4-H project must exhibit as 4-H. These cannot be combined to create an exhibit at the fair.
3. A maximum of 7 market pigs, including derby, may be entered at the fair. (See the fair book for entry information.)
4. Individual market pigs will be divided into barrow and gilt classes. Market pens may be a combination.

2011 Market Swine Derby Rules:

1. A maximum of 4 pigs of either sex can be weighed, eartagged and identified as derby pigs at the April weigh-in.
2. The maximum April weight is 70 pounds.
3. Two derby pigs may be brought to fair and they count in the total 7 pig limit at fair.
4. Derby pigs may be split into barrow and gilt classes for show.

Details:

- Cost of the ear tags is \$1.25 each and payable to: **ISU Extension**.
- Please plan to pay for your tags when the committee member is at your site. Your animal identifications are not valid until payment is made.
- Market Swine Identification Forms (ID Sheets) should be completed, signed, and returned with committee members at this time.
- If you have any questions regarding the swine weigh-in and tagging process, please don't hesitate to call the office, 336-3488. We'll be glad to help.

PIGS AVAILABLE FROM IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

If you are looking for pigs for this year's swine project, Iowa Lakes Community College Swine Department has feeder pigs available for 4-H'ers on a first come first serve basis. They estimate 50 head available in March, April, and May.

The price will be based on current USDA Ag Marketing Service and semen costs. Please contact Kelly Dodge at 712-852-5305 if interested.

STATE CONFERENCE / CLUB BOOTH THEME ANNOUNCED

Be sure to mark June 28-30, 2011 for the Iowa 4-H Youth Conference, Animal Science ROUNDUP, and Technology Team Meeting at the Iowa State University Campus in Ames. The Conference Theme is Our Club Booth Theme for the 2011 Dickinson County Fair: **"Aiming For Adventure"**





MARKET SHEEP WEIGH-IN & IDENTIFICATION

All 4-H and FFA members in Dickinson County that plan to exhibit market sheep at the county fair please mark **Saturday, April 16th from 8AM-11AM** on your calendars for weigh-in and identification at the fairgrounds. (This takes place the same time as the goat weigh-in process.)

2011 Market Sheep Rules:

1. Market classes are open to ewes or wethers lambled after Jan 1 of the current year.
2. All market sheep (lead lambs and feedlot lambs) must be weighed, tagged, and identified at the April weigh-in.
3. A maximum April weight is 80 pounds and a recommended minimum weight is 45 pounds.
4. A maximum of 15 lead lambs may be weighed and tagged and 6 may be shown at the fair with a maximum of 4 from any one color face (black, white, or speckle). Individual lead lambs can come from your pen w/a maximum of 2 lead lambs per pen.
5. A maximum of 10 feedlot lambs may be weighed, tagged, identified, and designated a pen at weigh-in. Two pens of 4 lambs each may be shown.

Details:

- Cost of eartags is \$1.25 each, due that day, payable to: **ISU Extension**.
- Please plan ahead to pay for your tags at weigh-in. Your animal identifications are not valid until payment is made.
- Market Sheep Identification Forms (ID Sheets) will be completed at weigh-in.
- **If you want market sheep verified for the State Fair or Ak-Sar-Ben, please call the office immediately, so we can arrange for trained volunteers, retinal imaging equipment, and appropriate paperwork to be there that day.**

If you have any questions regarding the process, please call the office, 336-3488. We'll be glad to help.

MARKET GOAT WEIGH-IN & IDENTIFICATION

All 4-H and FFA members in Dickinson County that plan to exhibit market/meat goats at the county fair need to mark **Saturday, April 16th from 8AM-11AM** on your calendars for weigh-in and identification at the fairgrounds. (This takes place the same time as the sheep weigh-in process.)

2011 Market/Meat Goat Rules:

1. Exhibitors may weigh and tag a maximum of 5 animals and bring a maximum of 3 to the fair.
2. There is no minimum or maximum weight.
3. Goats must have their milk teeth in normal position at time of weigh-in and tagging. There shall be no evidence of breaking of the skin or eruption of the two permanent front teeth.
4. Open to wethers and does of all breeds. Classes will be determined by the committee.
5. Meat goats may sell at fair and count towards an exhibitor's 3 trip limit through the ring.
6. For additional show information, please refer to the fairbook.

Details:

- Cost of eartags is \$1.25 each, due that day, payable to: **ISU Extension**.
- Please plan ahead to pay for your tags at weigh-in. Your animal identifications are not valid until payment is made.
- Meat Goat Identification Forms (ID Sheets) will be completed at weigh-in.

If you have any questions regarding the process, please call the office, 336-3488. We'll be glad to help.



Important 4-H Dates / Deadlines:

April 2

Market Swine Identification, Weigh-in, & Tagging

April 16

Market Sheep & Goat Identification, Weigh-in, & Tagging

April 25

FSQA Training and Testing

May 13

All Animal ID Sheets Due (Identification Sheets)

(This includes pets, dogs, poultry, rabbit, horses, and any breeding animals in beef, sheep or goats.)

May 13

Project Enrollment Form Changes Due

June 28—30

State 4-H Conference

July 11

County Fair Entries Due

July 23-28

Dickinson County Fair

August 11-21

Iowa State Fair

September 10-18

Clay County Fair

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

DICKINSON COUNTY

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