



## February 2008 Union County Youth Newsletter

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

### 4-H Questions? Contact Us!

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### IMPORTANT REMINDERS.... more information inside!



- ◆ Apply for state recognition and trips!
- ◆ Graduating seniors—submit your county & state 4-H scholarship application.
- ◆ Capture the spirit at the 2008 State Volunteer Retreat.
- ◆ Attend the spring break clothing workshop to learn & have fun.
- ◆ E-mail Brooke to have faster access to the newsletter!
- ◆ Plan on having attended four club meetings by county fair.
- ◆ Check out [www.iowastatefair.org](http://www.iowastatefair.org) for Iowa State Fair updates.
- ◆ Attend the horse judging informational meeting.

## 4-H Scholarships Due February 15 4-H Awards Due February 15

### Have You Heard?

- ◆ County Youth Council and Union County Unicorn members rang the bells for Salvation Army.
- ◆ Douglas Boosters served dinner at the Open Table.
- ◆ Platte Producers January meeting was hosted by SWCC where they learned the art of ceramics.

### 4-H Scholarships

County and state 4-H scholarships are available to graduating high school seniors. The same scholarship form is to be used for both the county and state applications. County scholarships must be submitted to the Union County Extension office **Friday, February 15**. The state applications must be sent directly to the state office and received by **Friday, February 1**. For more information contact the extension office or visit [www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/grants.html](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/grants.html).

### State 4-H Awards

Senior members, 9-12th graders, please remember to apply for state awards such as project area, state 4-H council, national congress, national conference, and state technology team. If you would like to apply, a packet of information and applications are available online at [www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/recognition.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/recognition.htm) or stop in the extension office. The deadline has been lengthened, but submit applications to the county extension office by **Friday, February 15**. Also mark your calendars as the area interviews are scheduled for **Sunday, March 30**.

## 4-H Scholarships Due February 15

### Clothing Update

If we decide to do our Breakfast with the Easter Bunny fundraiser in March, we will need some help serving and such from youth and parents. We will contact you individually about the details later.

We would like to thank all **16** girls who attended the planning session workshop on Saturday, January 19th. We hope you had a fun time having facials, learning to shop for the \$15 challenge, and helping us plan for future workshops.

**The Spring Break Workshop is scheduled for Saturday March 15th from 10:30am-3:00pm at the Union County Extension Office. (Lunch will be provided for you).** Start your spring break with lots of information and fun!! See the March newsletter for exciting details about the workshop! You all chose friends you wanted to invite, so be sure to start inviting them.

Please RSVP by **Friday, March 14th** by calling the extension office.

For those of you who were unable to attend....we missed you!! Hope you are able to make it in March.

We are excited for 2008...**Remember our goal is to have 25 participants in the style show this year at fair, but with growing excitement we are pushing for 35-40. And also our goal is to have 15-20 of you participate in the \$15 challenge!**

Thank you always,  
Kilee & Holly

### Volunteers Capture the Spirit!

Capture the Spirit is the theme for the 2008 State Volunteer Retreat scheduled for **Friday, February 8, and Saturday, February 9**, centrally located at the DMACC facility in Newton.

The retreat, supported in part by a grant from Monsanto and National 4-H Council, will bring 4-H volunteers, staff, parents, and intermediate and senior 4-H members together 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 and is free except for the costs of the craft materials. Workshops and networking fill the day on Saturday, February 9, when a wide variety of workshop sessions will meet the needs of both new and experienced volunteers, staff, and 4-H members. The registration cost for Saturday is \$10 and includes lunch and breaks. (Reduced cost this year because of the Monsanto grant!)

Registration and more information about the retreat is at [www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/volretreat.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/volretreat.htm).

### Officer Training Workshop

A make-up officer training workshop is being planned by the county council. The tentative date is **Sunday, March 2** from 2-3:30 PM. All current officers, those interested in an officer position, and club leaders are encouraged to attend.

During the workshop you will have a chance to learn how to build a stronger officer team and plan effective meetings. In addition, there will be special break-out sessions for presidents, vice-presidents, secretaries and reporters, treasurers, and historian and photographers. Leaders may participate in any break-out session they would like.

Attending this workshop will also help your club meet a Banner Club criteria. So please encourage your club officers to attend!

### County Council Branches Out

The county 4-H council will be conducting a service activity by picking up and removing tree branches knocked down by the December ice storm. Members will be doing this activity in Creston, Afton, and immediate areas on the afternoon of **Sunday, February 17**. If you would like the council to clean your yard, please contact the office by February 8 with your name, address, and phone number.



# 4-H Awards Due February 15

## Iowa State Fair Updates

The 2008 Iowa State Fair will be from **August 7-17**. In the past premium books have been sent to past exhibitors; however, in order to save paper the books and entry forms will only be available through the fair's website at [www.iowastatefair.org](http://www.iowastatefair.org). This change will save over a million sheets of paper per year. Entries will continue to be accepted by mail or online. Be sure to check out the website for more information.

## Admissions Meeting

ISU

Iowa State Admissions Department will be at the extension office the evening of **Monday, March 24**. They will be available to ask all of your questions concerning entering ISU. Please check out the March newsletter for more details.

## County Youth Council

The council met January 20, and discussed the officer training workshop and a tree branch removal service project.

The next regular meeting is scheduled **Sunday, February 17** at 1 PM. Agenda will include preparation for the March officer training workshop.

## 2008 Iowa 4-H Youth Conference

Be sure to mark your calendars for the state 4-H Conference **June 24-26!** It is three fun filled days held on ISU's campus. Be on the lookout for more information and registration deadlines.

## Quicker Access to the 4-H Newsletter

If you would like quicker access to the monthly youth newsletter, sign up for electronic notification. Simply e-mail [bpepp@iastate.edu](mailto:bpepp@iastate.edu) and say you would like to be notified electronically when the newsletter is posted to our website. You can list as many e-mail addresses as you would like for notification purposes.

Once you are signed up for the electronic version, we will take you off the list to receive a hard copy of the newsletter and add you to the electronic notification list. Not only will you get quicker access to information, you will have fewer papers to keep located in your household. Plus, you will be helping the entire 4-H program by reducing labor, printing, and mailing expenses.

## Beef Weigh-In

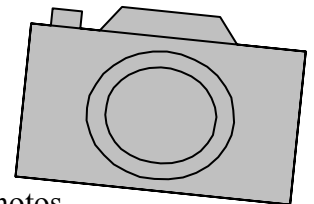
At the beef weigh-in, 125 4-H calves were weighed thanks to the help of the beef committee, parents, guardians, members, and other helpers. Everyone should have received a pink copy of the id form and a weigh slip to keep for your records. Please make sure to put these copies in a safe place to use while completing record book worksheets. Also remember record book forms are available on the extension website or at the office, so don't hesitate to start your record book now!

## Attendance Policy

4-H members need to attend at least four regularly scheduled club meetings to be eligible for county fair exhibition. (Please check with your club, too, as they may require more meetings.) The time period begins September 1, 2007 until this summer, but remember not all clubs meet during the summer months. The meeting requirement does not include club activities outside of the normal business meeting. If you need to verify the number of meetings you have attended, please contact your club secre-

## Remember to take Photos

For those working on their 4-H projects right now, this is a reminder to take photos throughout the process. It will be beneficial to take before and after photos of a project. In addition, be sure to take photos of you in action. These photos may be used in a county fair write-up and your record book.



## 4-H Scholarships Due February 15

### 4-H Judges Training

The SW Area 4-H Judges Training will be conducted **Saturday, March 29** at Creston High School. Adults interested in becoming a 4-H judge are encouraged to attend. Please check out the **March newsletter** or view [www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/publicjudgesinfo.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/publicjudgesinfo.htm)

### Horse Judging Team

Are you interested in judging horses and learning how judges place the county fair classes? Intermediate, 7-8 graders, and senior members, 9-12 graders, are encouraged to attend a meeting on **Monday, February 4**. Gay Lynne Owens, an active AQHA and National Reining Horse Association judge will coach the team. Therefore, this will be a great opportunity for anyone interested! The state 4-H horse judging competition is in June, but the team may decide to participate in other activities. Please note members don't have to be a member of the Horse & Riders Club or even be enrolled in the horse project area. For more information concerning this judging team, attend the meeting!



### 2008 Commitment to Agriculture Scholarship

Monsanto is taking applications for the 2008 Commitment to Agriculture Scholarship Program. They offer \$1500 each to 100 high school seniors who come from a farm family pursuing a career in agriculture. All applications must be submitted online no later than **Friday, February 15** and an online application signature form must be submitted by US mail postmarked no later than February 15th. Applications are available at [www.monsanto.com](http://www.monsanto.com).



### Douglas Boosters

Club members proudly show the Valentines they made at their last meeting. (Front: Jacey, Tyler, Tyson, Dillon, Gracie, Cooper, Chelcee, Marcia, and Lane. Back row: Kilee, Amanda, Payton, Keaton, Jordan, and Aaron.)



### As a Club:

- Encourage high school members to apply for state awards, trips, and scholarships.
- Check your club enrollments. Contact members who have not re-enrolled, plus potential new members.
- Continue to promote physical activity and healthy eating at club events. Plan a fun indoor or outdoor fitness activity.



We used several different life skills in January. We used fine & large motor skills, sharing, and maybe one on the hardest life skills, decision making.



Our project of the month was an art project. We talked about two different kinds of art, visual art and expressive art. Dancing, acting and singing were some of the things we came up with as examples of expressive arts. Painting, drawing and sculpting were examples of visual arts. We learned that whenever we do visual arts we use something called “Elements of Design.” We use at least one of these elements, and usually more than one when we do an art project. Some of the easy elements that we discussed were color, shape, line and texture. Texture, that was our word for the month. The art projects we made were small magnets from stones, magnets and old magazines.





You might be wondering how we used the life skills mentioned. We used fine motor skills as we traced around small stones, and as we cut out the pictures we traced. Sharing was used as we shared pictures from magazines that we didn't want, with someone who did want the pictures. Decision making, that seems to be a difficult life skill, even for adults. Decision making was used as we had to decide on five pictures that we wanted to use. These pictures had to be the right size. If the whole picture wasn't the right size, we had to decide what part of the picture we wanted to use. Could this be problem solving?



“Womping Willow” and “Frogger” were the games we played. The games are where the large motor skills came into play. The story we enjoyed this month was “Ernie’s Work of Art.”

Help! If anyone has any baby formula cans with lids or cans such as potato chip cans, we could use them this month for our projects. If you have any cans and can drop them off at the extension office, that would be great. Thank you.



See You Next Month!  
Cheryl Purdum  
County Youth Coordinator, Clover Kids

**YOUTH PLUS TEAM**

Word for the month—Collaboration! The Youth Plus meeting was held on January 8th. The team is very excited about the opportunities we have to create partnerships within agencies. Businesses and organizations are looking to create or expand existing learning programs in which they have specific interest or concerns and offer these extended learning opportunities in a planned and cohesive format as a way to better meet the needs of the families we serve. We are currently seeking funding for the planning process of this collaboration. At our next meeting we will be looking at areas of concerns and agencies or programs within the community who deal with those issues. Please plan to attend the meeting on February 5, 2008 at the Union County Extension Office at 4:00. You are a vital piece of the communities success.

**YACC (Youth Answering the Call of the Community)**



WOW! This group of young people are doing some amazing things! At the last YACC meeting they came with an agenda to get things accomplished and that is what they did! This year they have established committees to create more organization within the group. The endowment committee has been very successful in raising the YACC endowment. So far from area businesses they have received \$1,475 in donations. The publicity committee is working on the advertisement for the Million Penny Campaign that will take place during the month of February. Look for jars at area businesses to donate to their endowment.

In addition to fund development they are looking at community development. The service committee is researching projects that will have a true impact on our community. They will have more to report at our next meeting in February. YACC contributes about \$15,000 in grants to local businesses, agencies, and programs. The grant committee is working on creating a better way for follow up on the grants. Each of these committees have done an outstanding job of developing ways to improve our group. They are in the planning stages of some upcoming events. The Waukee Big Band Dance will be April 12th and the Banquet will be March 25th. Mark these dates on your calendar and plan to support these great group of young people. If your program or agency would like to apply for a grant, applications can be picked up at the Union County Extension Office or at [www.youthpods.org](http://www.youthpods.org). There next meeting will be held February 6th from 8:30-1:30 in Afton.



**EXTRAORDINARY EDUCATIONAL ADVENTURE**



**Save the Date! April 5, 2008!** Don't forget about this amazing opportunity for those who work with children and youth. There will be outstanding speakers including Julie Gintzler from Steve Spangler Science, Jim "Mr. Happy" Atkinson, Joan Donovan, ISU Extension Youth Specialist and Katie Bogue, Registered Dietitian from Iowa Department of Public Health. Teachers can earn graduate credits or credits for relicensure. Others can earn certification hours for QRS, DHS, CACFP, or CEU's for Child Development Associate Training. Everyone can earn knowledge of fun ways to interact with young people! Look for registration information at a later date!



### **YEAH Incentive Program**

YEAH has established their incentive ladder! We have asked area businesses to fund these incentives and then it will be a go! See the March newsletter for more details hopefully!

### **Plan Ahead for the Extraordinary Educational Adventure Conference**

YEAH will again have training for the volunteers at the Extraordinary Conference scheduled for Saturday, **April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008**. We will provide 2 hours of training with guest speakers Mr. Happy and Joan Donovan, who was a big hit last year. Please plan to attend...training is always beneficial for you plus you will earn volunteer hours for attending to go towards your incentive ladder.

### **YEAH Leadership Team**

We would like to thank our YEAH Leadership Team consisting of Sharon Wasteny, Valerie White, Jane Shantz, Dee Verhelst, Ayla Peppmeier, Devin Verhelst, Rylee Winners, Sarah Waigand, Jeova, and Kilee. Together we are working together to find more volunteer opportunities for YEAH and fun things to reward volunteers. **We are all in this together!** Thank you team!! **Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at 3:45pm in the CHS commons.**

### **YEAH Volunteer of the Month**

YEAH's January Volunteer of the Month is Brenna Baker. Brenna is a 5<sup>th</sup> grader at Creston Elementary and is always ready to volunteer. Even if Brenna can't be at a volunteer event the whole time, she makes every effort to show up and volunteer a little part of her time. Brenna is a great addition to every group she is involved in and we are pleased she is a part of YEAH. Congratulations on being chosen as the January Volunteer of the Month Brenna!

### **YEAH Volunteer Opportunities**

YEAH has been asked to help decorate the Friends of the Library Valentine Cookie Bouquets. The dates are February 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-7:30pm. You are welcome to help any night but we have designated YEAH's night to help as Monday February 11<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested, please contact Jeova and Kilee at the Extension Office.

It varies when we are in the office so just call the Extension Office at 782-8426 to get ahold of us or email [lilkralik\\_09@hotmail.com](mailto:lilkralik_09@hotmail.com) and [jeova2010@hotmail.com](mailto:jeova2010@hotmail.com)

Happy Volunteering! Jeova Flores and Kilee Kralik, YEAH Co-Coordinators

## 4-H Awards Due February 15

# Mark Your Calendar!

### February

### March



- 1 County & State 4-H Scholarships due
- 1 State recognition & trip applications due to county office
- 4 Lincoln United Mtg., 6:30 PM
- 4 Horse & Riders Mtg., 7 PM
- 10 Highland Highlights Mtg., contact leaders for more info
- 10 New Hope Mtg., 6 PM
- 10 Pleasant Valley Mtg., 6 PM
- 10 Sand Creek Mtg., 2 PM
- 12 Platte Producers Mtg.
- 13 Union County Unicorns Mtg., 7:30 PM
- 17 County Council Mtg., 1 PM

- 2 Pleasant Valley Mtg., 6 PM
- 2 Sand Creek Mtg., 6 PM
- 3 Horse & Riders Mtg., 7 PM
- 3 4-H Foundation Mtg.
- 4 Platte Producers Mtg., 6 PM, KSIB tour
- 9 New Hope Mtg., 6:30 PM
- 12 Union County Unicorns Mtg., 7:30 PM
- 15 Spring Break Clothing Workshop, 10:30—3:00
- 16 County Council Mtg., 1 PM
- 21 Extension Office Closed
- 24 ISU Admissions Mtg.
- 29 SW Area 4-H Judges Training, CHS
- 30 Area Award Interviews, Cass



- 13 YMCA Clover Kids, 4-5 PM
- 14 East Union Clover Kids 3:30—5 PM
- 21 Creston Clover Kids, 4-5 PM
- 27 Day Care Clover Kids, 2-3 PM

- 5 Day Care Clover Kids, 2-3 PM
- 6 East Union Clover Kids, 3:30—5 PM
- 12 YMCA Clover Kids, 4-5 PM
- 27 Creston Clover Kids, 4-5 PM



- 1-29 YACC Endowment Million Penny Drive
- 5 Youth Plus Mtg., 4 PM
- 6 YACC Mtg., 8:30-1:30, Afton, Location TBA
- 20 Youth Pod Marketing Mtg., 10-12, Osceola, Americalnn Hotel
- 27 Drug Awareness Mtg., 4 PM,

- 1 YMCA Home & Garden Show
- 4 Youth Plus Mtg., 4 PM
- 5 YACC Mtg. 8:30—1:30, Salem Lutheran Church
- 25 YACC Banquet, SWCC

**April 5** Extraordinary Educational Adventure Conference



- 11-13 Friends of the Library Cookie Bouquet Decorating, 4-7:30
- 19 YEAH Leadership Mtg., 3:45 PM, CHS Commons

If your club or event is not on the calendar, please check with your club leader. Leaders, please contact the extension office to add club events to the calendar. Thanks!



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